

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

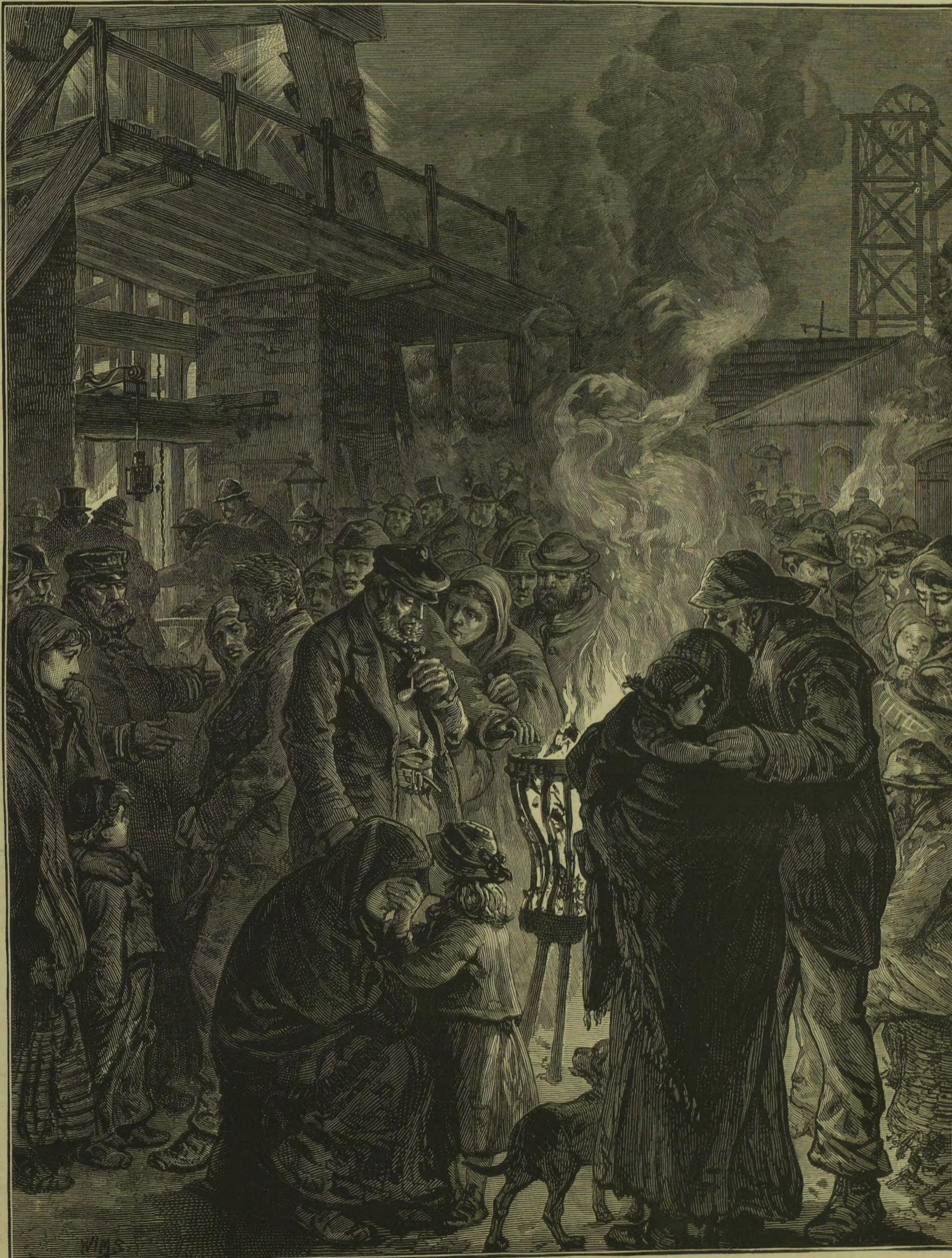


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No. 2122.—VOL. LXXVI.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1880.

WITH { SIXPENCE.
SUPPLEMENT } BY POST, 6½D.



THE LEYCETT COLLIERY DISASTER: FRIENDS OF THE MINERS WAITING AT THE PIT MOUTH. — SEE PAGE 90.

BIRTHS.

On the 19th inst., at Harpenden Hall, Herts, Mrs. Arthur Griffin Rumball, of twins—a girl and boy.
On the 18th inst., at Murray Park, St. Andrews, Scotland, the wife of the Rev. Henry Clarke, jun. (of Jamaica), of a daughter.
On the 25th inst., at the Park of Drumquhassle, Stirlingshire, the wife of M. M. Gray Buchanan, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 1st inst., at St. Stephens's Church, Bandora, E. J. Ebden, B.A. Camb., Bombay Civil Service, youngest son of the Rev. J. C. Ebden, Vicar of Great Stukeley, Huntingdonshire, to Mary Anne, eldest daughter of W. Bullock, Bandora Hill, Bombay.

On the 20th inst., at the Twynnyrody Chapel, Merthyr Tydfil, Christopher James, younger son of G. B. Brock, Esq., of Bryn Llyf, Swansea, to Fannie, eldest daughter of F. James, Esq., of Garth Newydd, Merthyr Tydfil.

DEATHS.

On the 23rd inst., at Sunnyside, Lower Tooting, Mrs. Peek, aged 75.
On the 2nd inst., Caroline Anne Agnes, wife of Ralph Crispie Clayton, and only daughter of General John Ffolliott Crofton.

On the 22nd inst., at Haughton, Aberdeenshire, Mary Sarah Leith, wife of Robert Francis Ogilvie Farquharson, Esq., of Haughton, aged 51 years.

On the 22nd inst., suddenly, at Eastnor, Ledbury, Anna Mary, eldest daughter of the Rev. William Bruce, of Duffryn St. Nicholas, Cardiff, aged 33.

On the 24th inst., at Louth, Lincolnshire, aged 84, Elizabeth, widow of William Riggall, and only surviving child of James Kirkby, sen., formerly of Fulleby and Marsh Chapel, in that county.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, or Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 7.

SUNDAY, FEB. 1.

Sexagesima.
Morning Lessons: Genesis iii.; Matt. xviii. 1-21. Evening Lessons: Gen. vi. or viii. Acts xix. 21.
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m. and 3.15 p.m.
Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.
St. James's, noon.

MONDAY.

Purification of the Virgin Mary: Candlemas.
British Museum closed for the week.
Royal Institution, general monthly meeting, 5 p.m.
London Institution, 5 p.m. (Professor Armstrong on the History of Chlorine).
Musical Association, 5 p.m.
National Association for Social Science, 8 p.m. (Mr. Stephen S. Alford on the Habitual Drunks' Act of 1879).
Medical Society, 8.30 p.m.
Institution of Surveyors, 8 p.m.
Royal Academy, 8 p.m. (Professor A. H. Church on Chemistry—Pigments).

TUESDAY.

Moon's Last Quarter, 3.38 p.m.
Christian Knowledge Society, 2 p.m.
Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Schäfer on the Physiology of Muscle).
Society of Biblical Archaeology, 8.30 p.m. (Professor T. Hayter Lewis on Excavations made in "the Mound of the Jew," near Cairo).
Institution of Civil Engineers, 8 p.m. (Discussion on Fixed and Movable Weirs; Mr. J. J. Webster on Iron and Steel at Low Temperatures).
Pathological Society, 8.30 p.m.
Zoological Society, 8.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 4.

Agricultural Society, noon.
Society of Arts, 8 p.m. (Mr. Henry Seebom on Trade and Commerce with Siberia via the Kara Sea).
Dialectical Society, 8 p.m.
Obstetrical Society, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEB. 5.

Meeting of Parliament: to be opened by the Queen in person.
Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Dewar on Recent Chemical Progress).
London Institution, 7 p.m. (Mr. H. H. Statham on the Elements of Architectural Design).
Archaeological Institute, 4 p.m.
Royal Society Club, 6.30 p.m.
Linnean Society, 8 p.m. (Mr. H. M. Brewer on the Salmonidae and other Fish introduced into New Zealand).

FRIDAY, FEB. 6.

United Service Institution, 3 p.m. (Colonel C. B. P. Nugent on Aspects of Home Defence).
City of London College, 6 p.m. (Dr. Heinemann on Political Economy—Land Tenure).
Royal Institution, 8 p.m. (Dr. W. Huggins on Photographic Spectra of Stars, 9 p.m.).
Geologists' Association, anniversary, 7.30 p.m., elections and conversations.

SATURDAY, FEB. 7.

Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Pauer on Handel).
Society of Schoolmasters, 2 p.m.
Popular Concert, St. James's Hall, 3.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W. Height above Sea, 34 feet.

Day.	DAILY MEANS OF		THERMOM.	WIND.		General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m., rain in 24 hours at 10 a.m., rain in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m., next morning.	In.	
	Barometer Corrected.	Temp. of the Air.		Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Absolut. of Cloud.	Maximum, read at 10 a.m.	Minimum, read at 10 a.m.	
January 18	Inches.	°	°	°	0-10	0	N.W. WNW. NNE.	72	0°00
19	30°005	34°2	26 3	76	5	37°5	25°6	23°7	0°00
20	30°455	25°9	17 7	77	3	35°4	E.N.E.	412	0°00
21	30°635	25°7	19 3	79	2	32°3	19°3	16°5	0°00
22	30°577	27°4	24°5	90	9	32°7	20°2	17	0°00
23	30°34	32°7	24°4	80	3	37°7	24°7	166	0°020*
24	3°432	35°9	30°8	84	10	38°0	33°9	N.	0°00
	30°340	32°9	27 7	83	10	37°4	31°5	N. SE.	0°00

* Rain and sleet.

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock, a.m.:—

Barometer (inches) corrected .. 21.978 20°380 30°027 30°028 30°021 30°450 30°336
Temperature of Air .. 28°10° 28°49° 22°10° 24°89° 28°09° 35°25° 34°0°
Temperature of Evaporation .. 27°02° 25°19° 22°29° 25°60° 27°22° 37°10° 31°29°
Direction of Wind .. NW. ENE. ENE. W. WNW. NNE.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 5.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m

Second and most important portion of the collection of high-class Continental Pictures of Mr. P. L. Everard.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON, and WOODS respectfully give notice that they will SELL BY AUCTION, at their great Rooms, King-street, James's-square, on SATURDAY JAN. 31, at One precisely, by order of Mr. P. L. Everard, who is leaving England, the SECOND PORTION comprising some of the principal works of his well-known collection, including The Card Players and Interior of an Estaminet, by Domingo, two gems of this great artist; Cinderella, The Separation after her Marriage with the Young Prince, and The Return on the Coming of Age of the Prince; a scene on the Grand Canal, Venice, by O. Cortazzo; The Maniac, by Hughes Merle; Anglers at Fontainebleau, an important and fine work by V. Palmeroli; The French Garden, and two other Views in Venice, by Ziem; masterpiece of Saint Jean, from the renowned Pereire Collection; two cabinet Pictures by Elouard Frére; and examples by the following distinguished artists:

Baugniet	Golpardo	Jacque, Ch.	Saint Jean
Bauer	Cogni	Jorio	Saintin
Bazzanari	Cortazzo	Kochkock	Schelfout
Bertaud	De Haas	Levy	Schreyer
Beyle	De Jongho	Madrazo	Stevens
Bischoff	Domingo	Marchetti	Thirion
Breling	Dupré	Merle	Till, Professor
Bretton	Duverger	Muller	Tissot
Brillon	Fauvelet	Musin	Toumonche
Brown, J. L.	Fichet	Palmiroli	Trayer
Castan	Piero	Perrini	Veras
Chavet	Gabriel	Philippoteaux	Wahlberg
Comte	Gerald, Th.	Royer	Weber, G.
Compte Calix	Innocenti	Ziem, &c.	Ziem, &c.

May be viewed three days preceding, and Catalogues had.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

The FOURTEENTH WINTER EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, from Ten till Six. Admission, One Shilling. Catalogue, Sixpence.

H. F. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

NOW OPEN.—THE ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION of HIGH-CLASS PICTURES at MR. ARTHUR TOOTH'S GALLERY, 5, Haymarket (opposite Her Majesty's Theatre). Admission, One Shilling, including Catalogue.

DORÉ'S GREAT WORKS.—"ECCE HOMO" ("Full of divine dignity"—The Times) and "THE ASCENSION;" "CHRIST LEAVING THE PRÆTORIUM," "CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM," with all his other Great Pictures.—DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street. Daily, 10 to 6. 1s.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—MERCHANT OF VENICE.

EVERY EVENING at Eight o'clock.
Shylock, Mr. Irving; Portia, Miss Ellen Terry.
MORNING PERFORMANCES EVERY SATURDAY DURING JANUARY and FEBRUARY. Seats booked Six Weeks in advance.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.—Under the Management of Messrs. A. and S. Gatti.—Grand Christmas Pantomime, entitled SINDBAD THE SAILOR. "The greatest success ever known."—Vide public press.

EVERY EVENING at a Quarter to Eight. MORNING PERFORMANCES every Wednesday and Saturday, at Two o'clock. Box-Office under the portico of the Theatre; open daily from Ten to Five. No Booking Fees.

CANTERBURY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Under the Royal Patronage. Best Entertainment in the World. Varieties, Antislavery, Eight Special Engagements, by A. G. VANITY, the renowned Comedian. MR. ARTHUR LLOYD, Madam MASQUITA, KEELEY OF HERU, 9.30 p.m. Miss Nelly Power, M. Dewing, Miles, Alice Hoit, Broughton, Azariah Powell, and Corps de Ballet. At 10.30 the Grand Mystical Ballet ETHEREA, in which Ariel introduces her extraordinary Flying Dance and mysteriously Floats in Mid Air, crossing and recrossing the stage at pleasure. "It is so astonishing that to be believed it must be seen."—Sporting and Dramatic News.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY.

ALL THE YEAR ROUND.

MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS,

EVERY NIGHT AT EIGHT.

MONDAYS.

WEDNESDAYS, and

SATURDAYS, THREE and

and EIGHT.

Fanteuils, 5s.; Sofa Stalls, 2s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. No fees. No charge for programme. Ladies can retain their bonnets in all parts of the Hall. Doors open at 2.30 for day performances; 7.30 for the evening performances.

Every West-End omnibus runs to the doors of the Hall.

M R. AND MRS. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT, ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham-place. Managers, Messrs. Alfred Reed and Corney Grabin. "THE PIRATE'S HOME" (last Representation); after which, "CLEVER PEOPLE," by Mr. Corney Grabin; concluding with "BACK FROM INDIA." Every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday Evenings, at Eight. Morning Performances every Thursday and Saturday, at Three. Admission, 1s., 2s., 3s., and 5s. Monday, Feb. 16, first time of a New First Part entitled CASTLE BOTHREM; or, An Irish Stew, by Arthur Law; Music by Hamilton Clarke.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1880.

The Land Question is, to use a hackneyed phrase, "coming to the front." The immediate occasion of this seems to be the great and growing distress which pervades certain parts of Ireland, with which it is thought Government will have to deal during the coming Session in some way or other. The land system in Ireland differs but little from that of England. But in England the multitude and activity of other industries compensate for, and, therefore, somewhat conceal, the evils which accrue from it. There is agricultural distress in Great Britain. Tenant farmers are hastening, as best they may, to disentangle themselves from its meshes. But in Ireland, except in the north, and, perhaps, to some extent, in Dublin, the condition of the inhabitants depends solely upon the cultivation and the produce of the soil. That failing, there is nothing outside of it to look to. A succession of bad seasons, consequently, is sure to aggravate in intensity all the mischiefs arising from a bad artificial system of tenure. Such critical periods may, perhaps, be tided over by the help of Government, or by an outflow of private benevolence. But the root of the evil remains, and so long as it is imbedded in the Land system it may be expected to produce periodical distress analogous to that which is produced in India by successive droughts. The subject, therefore, felt to be pressing in England rises to something like irresistible urgency in Ireland. The more immediate aspect of it in the latter country is, perhaps, more easily to be dealt with than the remoter; but unless both are disposed of by thoroughly statesmanlike legislation, we must make up our minds to rule a discontented, turbulent, and, in the end, a disloyal population on the other side of St. George's Channel.

Mr. Bright dealt with this question at Birmingham on Saturday last; and since he has, according to universal belief, "the courage of his convictions," it is not surprising that he dealt with it very vigorously and very explicitly. The question, happily, is not necessarily a party one. It equally concerns Conservatives and Liberals. It is not even a class question; for Landlords and Tenants are alike interested in a fair settlement of it. Nor has the right hon. member for Birmingham made any novel proposition, for all the suggestions contained in his speech to his constituents on Saturday last may be found in an address which he delivered at Dublin fourteen years ago. His plan involves no injustice. It is quite conceivable that it might work itself out to its last result without a single breach of the peace—nay, more, without any increase of litigation. But the effect which he contemplates is to

transfer a property in land in Ireland

THE COURT.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice continue at Osborne. The Princess skated at Barton yesterday week, and on Saturday her Majesty and her Royal Highness paid a visit to Viscountess Gort. The Right Hon. R. A. Cross arrived at Osborne, and had an audience of the Queen, and also, with Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Ponsonby, dined with her Majesty. On Sunday the Queen and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service, performed at Osborne by the Rev. Canon Prothero. Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. George Villiers arrived at Osborne on Monday, and gave her Majesty an account of the details of his successful search for the lamented Prince Imperial's uniform.

The Queen has driven out daily. Upon one occasion last week, her Majesty met the 42nd Royal Highlanders, marching out under the command of Colonel Macpherson, C.B., and the regiment halted and saluted as the Queen drove along the line. The Hon. Lady and Miss Ponsonby have dined with her Majesty. Lady Waterpark has been at Osborne for a few days as Lady in Waiting during the temporary absence of Lady Southampton.

The Queen will hold a Council on Tuesday next, when her Majesty's Address to both Houses of Parliament will be finally arranged. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, will arrive at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday next for the opening of Parliament on the following day.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Rear-Admiral the Prince of Leiningen, arrived at Sandringham on Saturday last, whither the Princess had arrived two days previously from Marlborough House. On Sunday the Prince and Princess, with Princesses Louise Victoria and Maud of Wales and the Prince of Leiningen, attended Divine service at Sandringham church. The Rev. F. Hervey and the Rev. Canon Tarver, Rector of Stisted, Essex, officiated. Their Royal Highnesses will return to Marlborough House previous to the opening of Parliament.

The Duke of Edinburgh, who was staying on board the despatch-vessel *Lively* at Liverpool, inspected the men of her Majesty's ship *Resistance*, the guardship in the Mersey, yesterday week. In the afternoon his Royal Highness went on board her Majesty's ship *Eagle*, lying in the King's Dock, where he made an inspection of the Royal Naval Reserve. The Prince dined with Captain Thrupp, commander of the Resistance. On Saturday the Duke inspected the training-ship *Indefatigable*. The boys went through their drill in an efficient manner, and at the close of the inspection his Royal Highness expressed his pleasure at their smartness and intelligence. In the afternoon the Duke inspected the Naval Artillery Volunteers. The Duke was entertained at luncheon by the Mayor of Liverpool (Mr. Bernard Hall), who was invited to dine with his Royal Highness. The Duke left Liverpool by a night train for London, and on arriving drove to the Charing-cross station of the South-Eastern Railway, where he took the tidal train for Dover, en route for Paris, to meet the Duchess of Edinburgh on her arrival from Cannes. His Royal Highness will present the Queen's prizes to the students of the metropolitan drawing classes in connection with South Kensington Museum at Guildhall on Saturday next.

The Duke of Connaught has consented to take the chair at the anniversary dinner of the German Hospital, Dalston, which will be held at Willis's Rooms, on April 28 next, in aid of the funds of the institution.

Prince Leopold has consented to become patron of St. Agatha's Convalescent Home for Invalid Children at Beckenham, and has forwarded ten guineas to the Home.

Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein attained his forty-ninth year on the 22nd inst. The day was observed with the usual honours at Windsor.

The Duchess of Cambridge received on Saturday intelligence of the accouchement of the Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, who was safely delivered of a daughter at an early hour that morning at Strelitz.

The Duke of Cambridge had a dinner party at Gloucester House yesterday week. Covers were laid for thirty gentlemen.

Invitations for the customary Parliamentary banquets on the eve of the opening of Parliament have been issued for Wednesday next by the Ministers, and by Earl Granville and the Marquis of Hartington on the part of the Opposition.

Marriages are arranged between the Hon. Henry R. Scott, brother of Lord Polwarth, and Lady Ada Home, second daughter of the Earl of Home; and between Baron de Waldenfels and Miss Eleanor Ashworth, youngest daughter of the Marchioness of Donegall and the late Lieutenant-General Sir Frederick Ashworth.

THE DISTRESS IN IRELAND.

The collection and distribution of the Duchess of Marlborough's Relief Fund, which amounted last Tuesday to above £25,000, continues to be the leading feature of proceedings hitherto adopted to meet the emergency. The Lord Mayor of Dublin, Mr. E. Dwyer Gray, M.P., has set on foot a Mansion House Committee, which has raised a relief fund amounting to nearly £31,000. This has no connection with that of the Duchess of Marlborough. Her Grace presides in person over the meetings of the Executive Committee of her fund, which are held in Dublin Castle, and she is assisted there by many influential ladies and gentlemen; her son, Lord Randolph Churchill, M.P., with Mr. G. Morris, M.P., Mr. E. Dease, M.P., and Dr. J. C. Meredith, acting as honorary secretaries. They made grants last Monday to the amount of £4400, mostly giving sums of £100 at a time to aid local committees in different poor-law unions throughout the country. The Dublin Mansion House Committee, at which the Archbishop of Dublin presided last week, usually makes grants of £50. There is no special agency for the relief of distress in the city of Dublin. Letters have been addressed by the Duchess to the Lord Mayor of London, thanking him for the £10,000 raised by the London Mansion House Committee; and her Grace has also written an earnest appeal to the English clergy, asking their co-operation and that of members of the Church of England. It is generally believed that the worst of the distress is to come; and it is, in fact, already felt to be increasing daily and weekly. Several isolated acts of violence, and outrages on person or property, have lately been reported, but no further signs of a general disposition to break the law, except by the non-payment of rent in the suffering districts. Mr. Parnell's tour in the United States of America, with his reception by large meetings there, and the formal compliments he has got from some official quarters, has attracted much notice.

An unusually long list of cases of saving life has been rewarded by the committee of the Royal Humane Society.

POLITICAL.

Town will eclipse the country on Thursday next. Is that why we have been doomed to endure the many dense fogs that have been inflicted upon us of late? Allusion is here made, be it understood, to the brumous state of the London atmosphere—not to the hazy condition of the political outlook. With the general cessation, however, of speculating by hon. members outside the walls of St. Stephen's, it may legitimately be hoped that the air will, at least, be so clear by Thursday that her Majesty may again be favoured with Queen's weather for the opening of Parliament. As usual on the eve of the Session, the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer will give banquets to the leading supporters of the Ministry; and Earl Granville and the Marquis of Hartington, following suit, are to entertain at dinner the chief members of the Opposition.

Mr. Bright, whose Birmingham speeches evince that his old vigour of expression and power of attack remains unimpaired, followed up his exposition of the work done by the Conservative and Liberal parties for the last fifty years by delivering two more addresses instinct with fire. The second was devoted to counselling the members of the Junior Liberal Association of Birmingham, at a soirée in the Townhall, to take a judicious part in politics. Mr. Bright seized the opportunity of stating that the next Liberal Administration would quickly seek to equalise the county with the borough franchise. He dwelt upon the civilising effect of the Education Act, and, inspired by his horror of war, he rose to the loftiest heights of eloquence in his impassioned denunciation of those who had brought about the wars in which we have been engaged of late. It will be seen from this quotation that Mr. Bright did not spare the nation in his sweeping condemnation:

The retribution, sometimes of individuals and sometimes of nations, comes slowly, but it is sure to come. A great Italian poet has said:—

The sword of Heaven is not in haste to smite,

Nor yet doth linger.

We may be quite sure, therefore, that in some shape, if we, the people of Eng. and, tolerate the bloody and the sanguinary crimes which are committed in our name—if these are so committed and we do not remonstrate and condemn, we shall have no acquittal at the tribunal by which the actions, not of individuals only, but of nations and peoples are finally judged.

Ireland absorbed the whole of Mr. Bright's attention in the speech he addressed to his constituents in the Birmingham Townhall on Saturday. He boldly reviewed the history of Ireland in order to show that generous measures of reparation were due from England to the island which is now the scene of deplorable misery. The fact that her Majesty had only twice in her reign visited Ireland did not escape comment; but Mr. Bright was quick to add that the Queen had at heart the welfare of all her people. The absenteeism of many Irish landlords was also pointed to as a natural source of complaint. Coming to his proposals for healing Ireland's sores, Mr. Bright frankly said he was for "no sudden or heroic remedy." First of all, he was for discouraging the growth of large estates. He would "say that whenever men owning land die without leaving wills their landed property should be subject to exactly the same rule of division which is now applied to their personal property." Then he would "put an end to the system of entail, by which it should be rendered impossible to tie up the land; so that the man who lies quiet for ever in the churchyard should not have the power when dead of determining the ownership of the estate which he possessed."

"There should also be enforced 'a compulsory registration of all landed property, so that it would be easy at the expense of only a few shillings or a very few pounds—generally only a few shillings—to transfer a farm or an estate from one man to another by an absolutely legal and definite sale.'" Mr. Bright then freely acknowledged that the purchase clauses of Mr. Gladstone's Land Act had virtually proved inoperative;

and he came to his main proposition, the motion for which was obtained from the satisfactory working of the Irish Church Commission in the sale of lands. Paying a passing tribute to the labours of Mr. Shaw-Lefevre in the Parliamentary Commission on the subject, Mr. Bright stated that he was strongly in favour of an Irish Land Commission (modelled after the Irish Church Commission), to be intrusted with the weighty duties of enabling the occupying tenantry in "thousands and thousands of cases" to become positive owners of their farms. "I will tell you how it is done," added Mr. Bright:—"The proposition is that if a man comes to buy a farm which his landlord is disposed to sell, the Treasury will find a certain portion of the money—it may be two thirds or three fourths. If, for example, it costs £400, the Treasury would find £300 and the farmer himself £100, and then the farm is transferred to him, and he goes on paying his rent, not to the landlord, because he is away, having sold it, but to the Commission, and the interest on the money he has borrowed from them; and after a number of years—thirty-five years—he has paid all the interest and all the principal of the £300, and the farm becomes his own."

Now, I want the Government and Parliament to pass a law which shall compel the London companies, for example, who are the owners of great estates in the county of Londonderry, to sell their estates under an Act of this kind. I want also that the Commission appointed shall have the power of taking over absolutely any estate offered them for sale which they might think a desirable estate, so that, having it in possession, as the Church Commission had the Church lands, they might hand it over to the various tenants on the estate who were willing to buy."

Mr. Bright concluded with an earnest hope that the Government would "open their hearts, and their intellects, too," not only to relieve the suffering people of the west, but also to ameliorate the condition of "the Ireland of the future." When Mr. Muntz and Mr. Chamberlain had delivered their well-worn philippics against the Ministry, Mr. Bright chimed in with a final and severe reproof of their "miserable policy."

The Government have not neglected to reply to these successive attacks of Mr. Bright. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach at Tewkesbury, on the 21st inst., claimed that the Ministry had by no means shown any disinclination to deal either with the question of the land laws or any other matter that figured in "the programme of Whig reforms."

The Colonial Secretary could not do without the usual Ministerial peroration—of "glory and gunpowder," as Lord Derby dryly calls it. Nor could Lord Sandon on Tuesday, when the President of the Board of Trade, with an alacrity worthy the Minister who cheerfully declared his willingness to regenerate Turkey in Asia by means of the steam plough, spoke at Liverpool on behalf of Mr. Whitely, the Conservative candidate for the seat rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Torr. Not altogether inappropriate to the arena of Hengler's Circus, wherein the meeting was held, was the light, bantering tone with which Lord Sandon began.

Quite delightful from so mature a member of the Government was the loquacious allusion to Lord Ramsay as being "not, perhaps, of much political experience;" and it was with admirable confidence that his Lordship reintroduced the stock Ministerial hobbies of Liberal subserviency to Russia and to the Irish Home-Rule party. Meantime, Lord Ramsay has been dauntlessly and hopefully rallying the Liberal electors of Liverpool,

and has, doubtless, a captivating ally in Lady Ramsay, with whom he spent Sunday at Knowsley, at the invitation of Lord Derby, it is significant to add.

The Irish Home Rulers in Liverpool have at present resolved to hold aloof at the election, because Lord Ramsay had declined to accede to their views. From Dublin we hear that the passing by the Home-Rule meeting last week of the O'Donoghue's resolution of sympathy with the peasants who had resisted eviction in the west led the Duke of Marlborough to write to the Lord Mayor of Dublin declining to attend his inaugural banquet in consequence of the motions adopted at the gathering over which Mr. Gray, M.P., presided. Thereupon the Lord Mayor appears to have done the best thing he could under the circumstances. His Lordship decided to give up the banquet and to present £500 to the fund for the distressed. Moreover, Mr. Gray attended the Lord Lieutenant's reception on Tuesday to smooth matters.

THE AFGHAN WAR.

The only important piece of news this week, if it be confirmed, which was considered doubtful at Calcutta on Wednesday last, is the rumour of the death of Mohammed Jan, the redoubtable leader of the Afghan military party at Ghuzni opposed to the British occupation. There is another rumour, that Ayoub Khan, the Governor of Herat, is making his way to Ghuzni to join the combination in arms for the expulsion of the British from Cabul; and a renewed attack from the hostile tribes is expected, we know not upon what grounds, to take place about Feb. 24. General Sir F. Roberts was at the Latabund Pass on Monday last, inspecting his line of communications. A movable column, under Colonel Boisragon, has been sent from Jellalabad into the Lughman Valley, north and east of that place, which is under the influence of Azmatullah Khan. The *Times* correspondent at Cabul mentions a scheme for the settlement of Afghanistan, which he thinks will probably receive consideration both in London and Calcutta. It is that the troops should at once withdraw to Jellalabad, and that a proclamation should be issued stating that, vengeance having now been satisfied, her Majesty leaves the Afghans to elect their own ruler; that until the peaceful settlement of the country under an accepted ruler the Queen foregoes her right, under the Treaty of Gundanuk, to place an Envoy at Cabul; and that in the meantime Jellalabad and Candahar will be occupied by British troops and governed by Afghan officers of her Majesty's choice.

THE LEYCETT COLLERY DISASTER.

The explosion at the Leycett Colliery, near Newcastle-under-Lyne, Staffordshire, on Wednesday of last week, by which sixty or seventy lives were lost, is the subject of three of our illustrations. These represent the appearance of the actual moment of the explosion, viewed from a short distance above ground; the assemblage of an excited multitude at the pit's mouth, when the terrible event had become known in the neighbourhood; and the distressed friends, wives, and children, or parents, brothers, and sisters, of the unfortunate men who were known to have been at work below, despondently awaiting the result of a continued search in the subterranean galleries and recesses. That part of the Leycett Colliery, belonging to the Crewe Iron and Coal Company, in which this disaster took place, is the Fair Lady Pit, opened about a twelvemonth ago; and its levels were driven through the seven-foot Bambyre seam of coal, which is very "airy" or productive of carburetted hydrogen gas, called by the miners "fire-damp." Its depth is 410 yards, and the workings extended, in one direction 300 yards, in another 200 yards, from the downcast shaft. There had been complaints of insufficient ventilation, and there was an explosion, by which eight men were killed, on Sept. 12 last year. The late manager, with the "fireman" in charge of the pit, had been summoned before the magistrates, but the case had been adjourned for a week. On the day of this recent greater calamity, seventy-seven men and boys went down to begin work in the morning; the fireman, William Burgess, was among them, and Mr. Greener, the actual manager, with his son, who was an "underlooker." The explosion of gas occurred at half-past eight in the morning, with a great noise, which alarmed the inhabitants of the neighbourhood three miles round. A new ventilating fan had been fitted up at the pit's mouth since the explosion last September. The roof of this fan was blown off, but the machine itself was uninjured, and the ventilation below was so far maintained that persons could go down with safety: but the guide-rods for the descending carriage were broken, and it was several hours before they could reach the bottom, using ladders for part of the way. Mr. Lawson, manager of another colliery, with seven men, was the first to descend, and about noon four men were brought up alive, one of them Burgess, the fireman. Some others were brought up more or less hurt, but several of these died. The dead bodies of Mr. Greener and his son were sent up in the afternoon, with nine others, and this sad work continued next day. The burial of sixty-two of the dead took place in Madley churchyard on Sunday. An inquest has been opened, and a subscription to relieve the distressed families has also been commenced.

Messrs. A. H. Baily and Co.'s exceedingly useful manual of reference, "Who's Who" for 1880, being its thirty-second annual appearance, contains, in a handy form, a fund of varied information on matters social and political, corrected to the beginning of the present year. Here, in short compass, will be found, clearly set forth, the status of every person of note.

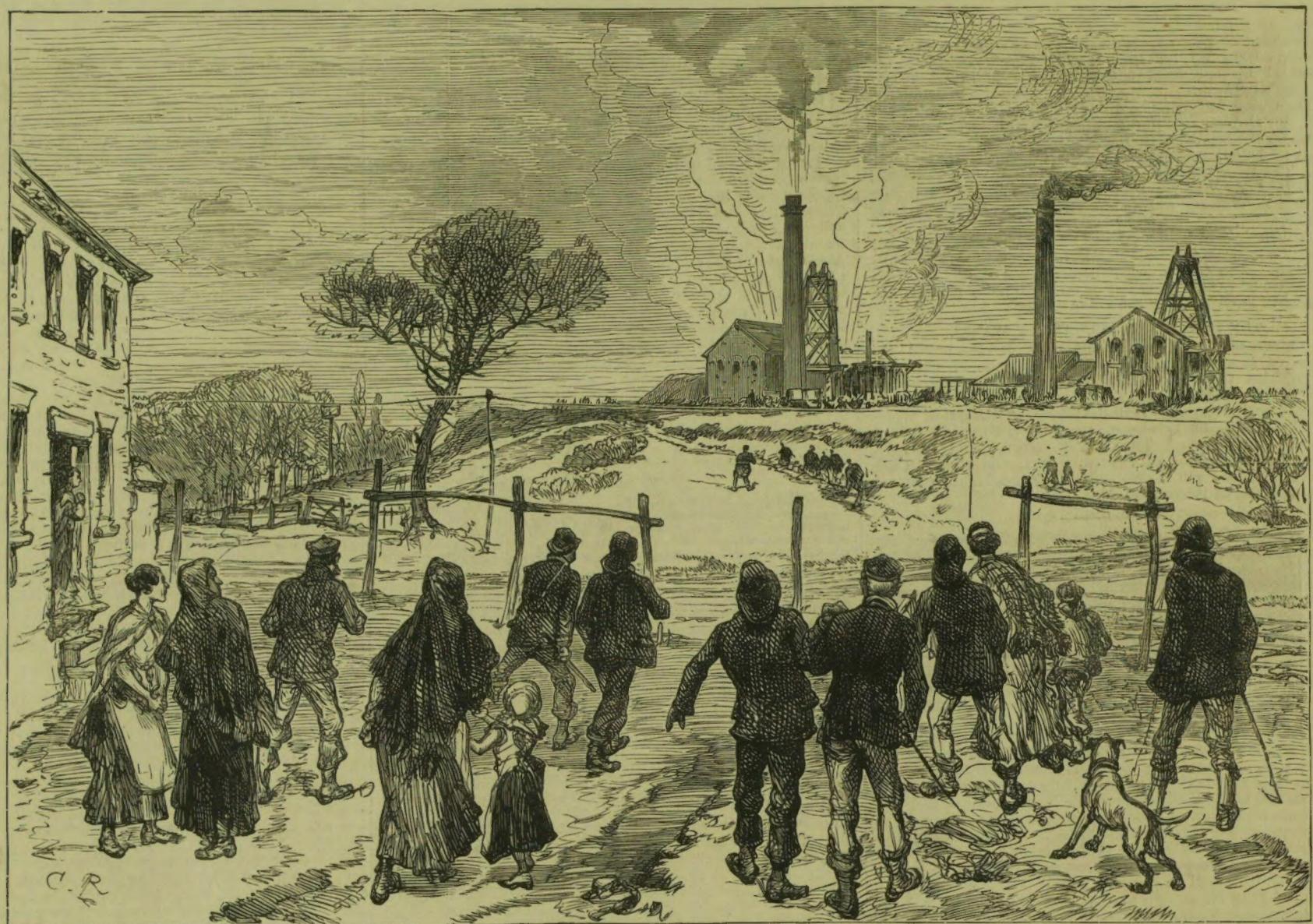
The Greenwich Hospital pension of £50 a year, vacant by the death of retired Deputy-Inspector John Dunlop, has been awarded to retired Fleet Surgeon Robert C. Scott. The First Lord of the Admiralty has awarded the naval pensions of £50 a year, vacant by the deaths of Retired Commanders Lewis F. Mitchell and James Irwin, to Retired Commanders Charles J. Slaughter and George R. Bell.

Mr. E. W. Streeter, the well-known jeweller of Bond-street, has issued a second edition of this book on "Precious Stones and Gems." The book is a most interesting record of all that is useful and desirable about precious stones, with a history of every gem of note. Much valuable information is to be found in the chapters on pearls. The illustrations are an important feature; and, taken altogether, the book has been thoroughly well done.

The annual meeting of the London Baptist Association was held on Tuesday evening at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, Newington; the Rev. W. Brock, the president, occupying the chair. This association, he said, which was founded in the year 1865, has now in existence 152 churches, with 37,500 members. It is about to extend its operations, and is going to build several additional chapels in the most crowded districts—the places where they were most needed.

THE LEYCETT COLLIERY DISASTER, NEAR NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYNE.

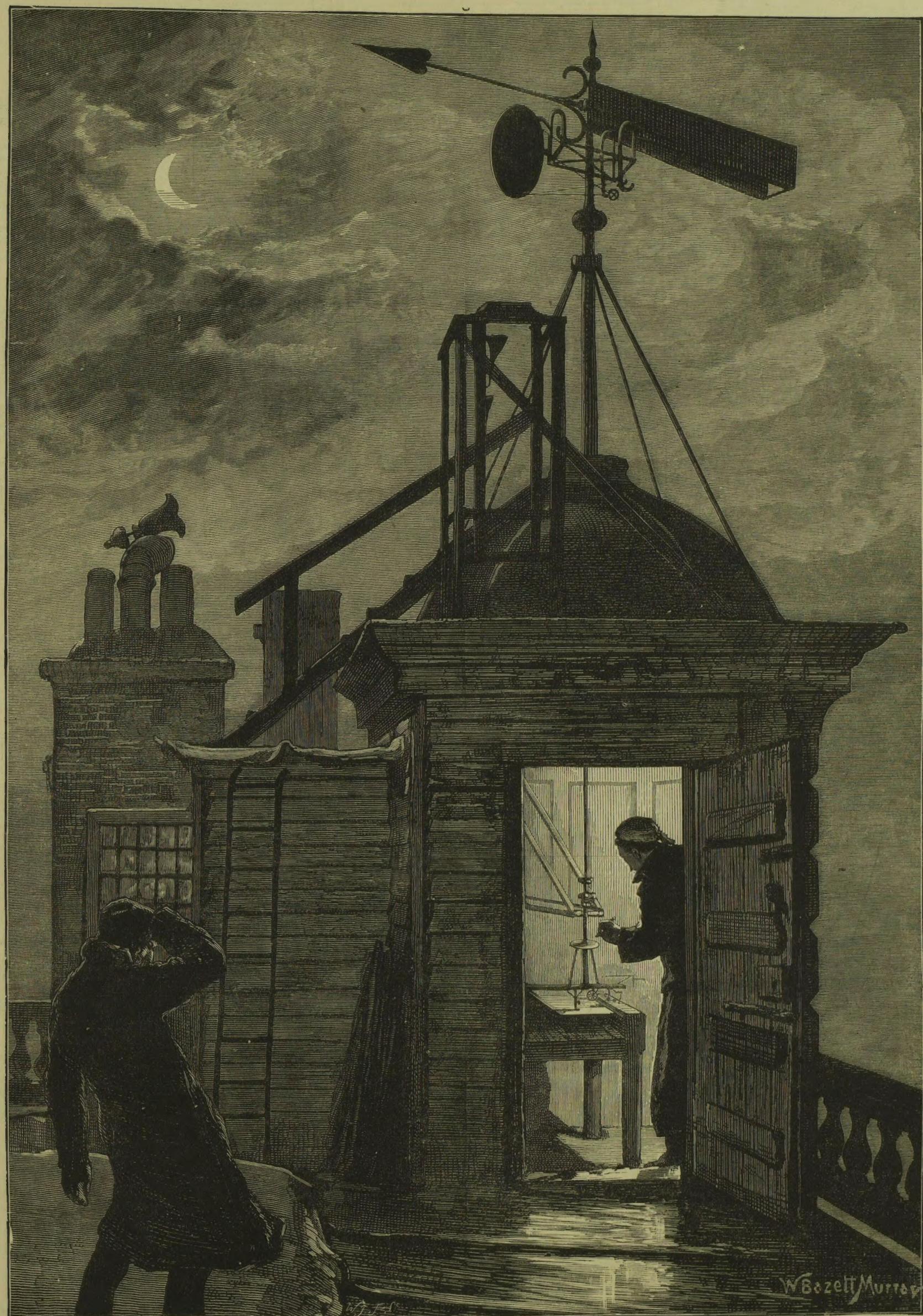
SEE PAGE 99.



THE EXPLOSION.



THE PIT AFTER THE EXPLOSION.



MEASURING THE WIND : A SKETCH AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, GREENWICH.—SEE PAGE 102.

W. Bazett Murray

THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY, GREENWICH.

The picturesque group of buildings on the hill in Greenwich Park, occupied by the Royal Observatory, under the superintendence of Sir G. B. Airy, the Astronomer Royal, contains various apparatus for the scientific purposes of recording meteorological phenomena, and those of the terrestrial magnetic currents, as well as for that of scanning the position and motions of the heavenly bodies. The Superintendent of the Meteorological and Magnetic Department is Mr. William Ellis. One important branch of these observations is conducted by means of the anemometer, a self-acting apparatus for continuously noting even the momentary changes in the direction and pressure of the wind: to which is added, by another apparatus at the same table, the indication of the rainfall from hour to hour. At the summit of one of the two turrets, overlooking the Park and the Royal Naval College and Royal Naval School, with the Thames beyond, at the north front of the Observatory, is erected Osler's Self-Registering Anemometer, of which we give an illustration. It rises from the leads of the roof of the Octagon Room, which was built in the reign of Charles II. for John Flamsteed, the first Astronomer Royal. The platform of the lead is 130 ft. above the sea-level, and the vane rises to about 225 ft. The anemometer was made by Newman, on a plan furnished by Mr. A. Follett Osler, F.R.S., but has received several changes since it was first originated. It displays at the top, outside, a large vane, which is turned by the wind, and from which a vertical spindle proceeds downward, nearly to the table within the turret, giving motion, by a pinion on the spindle, to a rackwork carrying the holder of a pencil. This pencil makes a mark upon a paper affixed to a board, which is moved horizontally by means of a second rack connected with the pinion of a clock; and which board, with the paper, moves uniformly in a reverse direction to that given by the above-mentioned rack holding the pencil. The paper has lines printed on it, corresponding with the directions which the pencil must take when moved by the vane above turning either to the north, east, south, or west, respectively; and it has also transverse lines marking the spaces that the pencil will traverse from hour to hour, at the uniform rate of motion given to the paper. The space over which the pencil has to move in one hour is nearly three quarters of an inch; and its deviations, marking the paper, show any changes there may have been in the direction of the wind. Another pencil is employed in registering, on its own portion of the sheet, the force or pressure of the wind, from half a pound to the square foot up to 30 lbs., which is seldom exceeded in our English climate. For this purpose, near the vane above the turret outside, a round plate or disk is constantly exposed to the wind, shifting its position with the vane; and it is furnished with springs behind, the force of which must be overcome by the pressure of the wind upon the plate. It is connected, by a cord and certain mechanism, with the pencil-carrier below, inscribing a line on the sheet of paper which is drawn forward, as before described, at a certain uniform rate by the hour. When the pressure of the wind is higher, as the position of the pencil is the result of the combined forces of the wind and the springs, the pencil is moved towards one side of the paper, among the lines designed to indicate the higher pressures. The pluviometer, or apparatus for registering the amount of rainfall, works simultaneously with the anemometer, and writes its own record on the same sheet of paper, side by side with the wind register, as the paper is drawn across the table by the action of clockwork. The rainfall water collects in a copper vessel, where its weight acts against the force of a delicate spiral spring, and tends to make the pencil-point move to one side; and the steepness of the deviating line traced by the pencil shows the greater rapidity with which the rain is falling. When a quarter of an inch of rain has fallen the receiving vessel empties itself, by a self-acting siphon arrangement, into a glass below; upon which, of course, the spring is relieved of the weight, and the pencil returns to its original posture of marking a straight line on the paper. The recording sheet is ruled for twenty-four hours, and is preserved as a complete register of all the variations in the direction and force of the wind, and of every quarter-inch of rainfall, whether gradual or sudden, during the past day and night. There is another wind-measuring apparatus, Dr. Robinson's, erected on the same platform a short distance to the rear. The motion to this is given by the pressure of the wind on four hemispherical cups, fixed to the ends of horizontal arms, fifteen inches long, revolving around a perpendicular axis; they are connected with a vertical spindle upon which is an endless screw, acting on tooth wheels that impart the movement to indices, capable of registering miles and multiples of miles up to one thousand. The pencil, in this case, writes on a sheet of paper wrapped round a barrel which revolves, on a vertical axis, once in twenty-four hours. This anemometer, invented by Dr. Robinson, of Armagh, was constructed in 1866. We must reserve for another occasion the notice of all that is to be found in the Magnetic Observatory, also under the charge of Mr. Ellis; the apparatus for determining the declension of the magnetic needle, and that by which the magnetic curves are photographed; and especially the darkened basement chamber, where some of the most important series of magnetic phenomena are not only observed, but are registered by photography, which has been used for that purpose since 1847 without intermission. These and other interesting features of the invaluable work of scientific reporting, which is performed at the Greenwich Observatory, may be made the subject of future illustrations in our Journal.

The great bonspiel between curlers on the north and south side of the Forth was played yesterday week on the ice at Carsbrook, Dunfermline. About 1600 players appeared. The ice was in good condition and the weather fine. The result was a victory for the northerners by twenty-eight shots.

Her Majesty's gun-boat Rambler was on Monday launched from Eden's yard, at Govan, on the Clyde. Her length is 157 ft.; breadth, 29½ ft.; and depth, 14½ ft. Her engines indicate 750-horse power. She is steel-plated and planked with a double thickness of teak, and is copper sheathed to water-line. She will carry 64-pounder muzzle-loading rifled bow and stern-chasers, and broadside of 4½ tons.

Last Saturday, at the Plymouth Guildhall, Mr. Luscombe, J.P., presented Jules Gicquel, a Frenchman, on behalf of the Board of Trade, with the Foreign Office silver medal, for his gallant conduct in having jumped overboard from the steam-ship Hankow, in Plymouth Sound, and rescuing a lunatic named E. Aveson, a passenger, who embarked in London for Australia, and who attempted to drown himself.

At the annual meeting of the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce on Monday a letter was read from Mr. Mundella, M.P., in which he said the present state of the bankruptcy law was a crying evil, and he hoped, whatever was done or left undone in the coming Session, this question would remain no longer unsettled. The law ought to be shaped by those engaged in commerce, aided by members of the legal profession.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

M. Gambetta, the Ministers, and the members of the Bureaux of the Chamber of Deputies, dined on the 22nd inst. with President Grévy at the Elysée. A brilliant reception followed in the evening. M. de Freycinet on the 23rd received the delegates from the principal French industrial centres, and promised to communicate their recommendations on the subject of free trade to the Council of Ministers. M. de Freycinet held last Saturday night his first reception since his accession to the Premiership. The reception was attended by all the members of the diplomatic body, and M. de Freycinet received numerous congratulations upon the changes he had effected in the internal organisation of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The Senate began yesterday week the discussion of the Ferry Bill on the Supreme Educational Council, M. Wallon opposing and M. Roger Marvoise defending it. A caucus of the Pure Left deputies was held to consider the reply of the Advanced Left to the proposal of a fusion. That reply, however, being a virtual refusal, the caucus passed over the matter, and discussed the propriety of rescinding last year's resolution, excluding from the Pure Left all deputies enrolled in any other group. The resolution was eventually rescinded.

Both Chambers met on Saturday. In the Senate, the Duke de Broglie spoke in a crowded House against the bill by which the religious element would be excluded from the Superior Council on Education. He asked the Senate to reject the bill, which he described as a first step in the path of revolutionary fanaticism. The debate was adjourned. The Chamber of Deputies discussed the Public Meeting Bill, or rather three bills—one introduced by the Government, a second by the committee, and the third by M. Louis Blanc, this last proposing the repeal, pure and simple, of all laws fettering the right of meeting and forming associations, whereas the others insist on notice being given to the authorities and on police regulations. M. Louis Blanc spoke at some length in favour of the unrestricted right of public meeting. Towards the close of the sitting a "scene" occurred between M. Gambetta and M. Cunéo d'Ornano, a young Bonapartist deputy, which ended in a vote of censure being passed upon the latter.

On Monday M. Cheneclong made a long speech in the Senate attacking the bill for the establishment of a superior Council of Education. M. Jules Ferry defended the measure, and read a secret memorandum drawn up by the framers of the bill of 1869, and which had been submitted to the Pope, showing that the scheme was intended to swamp the University by a number of members not belonging to it, in order to increase the influence of the clergy in education. Several members of the Right objected to the reading of this document; and, after it had been read, a senator asked who were its authors, to which M. Jules Ferry said, "I have no doubt M. de Falloux and Monsignor Dupaulleur." The debate was adjourned on the motion of M. de Laboulaye. The Chamber of Deputies, by 322 votes to 162, rejected M. Louis Blanc's motion for the abrogation of all laws restricting the right of public meeting and association.

The general discussion on the bill in the Senate was concluded on Tuesday by a lively speech from M. Laboulaye, who was opposed to constant State interference in matters of education. The present measure, he said, did not suppress liberty, but virtually strangled it, and he thought that by such bills the Republicans were paving the way for a Dictatorship. In the Chamber of Deputies, M. Magnin, the Minister of Finance, presented a bill for the abolition of the duties on inter-navigation. Urgency was voted for the measure. M. de Baudry d'Asson, a member of the Right, brought in a bill to authorise a credit of 10,000,000 francs for the relief of the sufferers by the severity of the winter season. He moved for urgency for the bill, which, however, was refused. The House then proceeded with the discussion of the bill respecting the right of public meeting. M. Lepère, the Minister of the Interior, spoke in favour of maintaining article 4 in the form proposed by the Government. He maintained the necessity of the object of a public meeting being declared beforehand by its promoters. Despite the Minister's arguments, the Chamber adopted the fourth clause of the bill as proposed by the committee by 310 votes against 167; and clauses 5 and 6 were afterwards agreed to with modifications. A long discussion ensued upon clause 7, which aims at preventing political meetings. It was ultimately referred to a committee.

The funerals of M. Jules Favre and M. de Lavergne took place on the 22nd. M. Jules Favre's funeral was attended by three Ministers—namely, MM. Lepère, Ferry, and Magnin—and a large number of Senators, deputies, advocates, and literary men. After a service in the Protestant church at Versailles, the body was taken to the cemetery of that town. M. de Lavergne's funeral took place at the Madeleine, and among those present were three members of the Cabinet (MM. Tirard, Cochery, and Varroy), the Due de Broglie, and M. Buffet.

A curious revelation has been made by M. Paul de Cassagnac in the course of a newspaper controversy. As the matter is now one of history, he declares that the Prince Imperial had told him a score of times that he contemplated effecting a landing in France.

A cattle show has been opened at the Palais de l'Industrie. The entries at the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce include 263 bulls or cows, 16 calves, 54 pens of sheep, and nine others containing 15 sheep each. The pig department is numerously represented, there being 127 exhibits. In the section for poultry there are 1703 lots of live and 210 of dead birds. A good show is also made of dairy and agricultural produce and implements.

ITALY.

The Senate concluded on Saturday last the debate on the Grist Tax Bill, by adopting, by 125 to 83, a resolution recommending the postponement of the discussion of the bill until the tax can be abolished without prejudice to the finances. The Ministry consider this as equivalent to the rejection of the measure. On Sunday the Senate passed a Bill for the repurchase of the Roman railways by the State, and approved a convention with the Peninsular and Oriental Company for a regular steam-boat service between Venice and Brindisi. In Monday's sitting Signor Depretis, the Minister of the Interior, read a decree of the King proroguing the Parliament. The new Session is expected to begin about Feb. 15. There are still rumours of an addition being made to the Upper House, so as to ensure the passing of the Grist Tax Abolition Bill.

Dr. Gerrard Small, an English physician at Rome, who began practice there in 1832, was, in his servant's absence on Friday, the 23rd inst., assailed in his own house by two men, who stole 200 lire, and left Dr. Small half strangled and unconscious on the floor. He is stated to be now out of danger. The police on Saturday arrested two young men whom the doctor identified as his assailants, and who have been found to be confederates of a man-servant whom he had dismissed.

It is announced from Caprera that the civil marriage ceremony between General Garibaldi and Donna Francesca was performed on Monday.

SPAIN.

Señor Canovas del Castillo, replying in the Chamber on Monday to a question put by Señor de Posada Herrera, said that he had not intended to offend the minority by leaving the House during the sitting on the 10th ult. The minorities of the Senate and Congress have, in consequence, decided by a considerable majority to return to Parliament.

Count Toreno has been elected President of the Chamber by 241 votes against 12. The bill for the abolition of slavery in Cuba was adopted by 230 to 10.

Telegrams from Madrid report that a new project for the abolition of slavery in Cuba, which differs in some points from the bill adopted by the Senate and the Lower House, has been drawn up by a committee of deputies and senators.

GERMANY.

Prince Bismarck arrived at Berlin from Varzin on Monday evening. The object of his visit to the capital is said to be to have an interview with the Crown Prince before the latter's return to Italy.

A bill for supplementing and modifying the present Imperial Army Law has been submitted to the German Federal Council. The measure provides for the establishment of eleven new regiments of infantry and the addition of thirty-two field batteries to the existing formations. The permanent yearly expenditure arising from these changes is estimated at 17,160,242 marks, and the extraordinary expenditure at the outset at 26,713,166 marks. The German Military Estimates for 1880-1, which were on Monday presented to the Federal Council, amount to 292,185,916 marks. This is exclusive of the expenditure of Bavaria.

M. d'Ourbl, the Russian Ambassador at this Court, had an audience on Monday morning of the German Emperor to present his letters of recall. His successor, M. Sabouroff, arrived at Berlin on Monday. M. d'Ourbl was entertained last Sunday evening at a farewell dinner by Lord Odo Russell.

An official statement shows that the total traffic returns of the German railways for 1879 were less by five million marks than in 1878, notwithstanding additional lines to the extent of 2600 kilomètres.

The Duchess of Marlborough's Committee appeal through the medium of the German press for subscriptions for the relief of the distress in Ireland.

A further Imperial grant of 70,000 marks has been made to the German Geographical Society for the exploration of Africa.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The Budget Committee of the Austrian Delegation on Sunday voted all the estimates of expenditure for the army and the means of defraying it proposed by the Government.

A bill authorising the construction of the Arlberg Railway at the cost of the State was presented last Saturday to the Lower House of the Reichsrath. It estimates the outlay at 35,600,000 florins, and provides that the work shall begin this year.

In Monday's sitting of the Lower House of the Reichsrath Herr Fux introduced a motion in favour of a general, simultaneous, and proportional reduction of the armies of Europe, whereby, it is pointed out, the relative strength of the various Powers would not be in any way altered. The House afterwards adopted, by 158 votes to 142, a motion to refer back to the committees the Ground Tax Law Amendment Bill, with instructions to report upon it within eight days.

On Monday in the Lower House of the Hungarian Diet M. Tisza opposed a motion for a Parliamentary inquiry into the recent riots in connection with the popular demonstrations against the National Casino at Pesth, and gave an account, based on official reports, of the disturbances.

In Tuesday's sitting of the Austrian Delegation the estimates of the Ministries for Foreign Affairs and Finance and the Superior Court of Accounts were passed without amendment. All the members of the Delegation who spoke during the sitting expressed approval of the foreign policy hitherto pursued by the Government.

RUSSIA.

The *North German Gazette* states that on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Czar's accession to the throne the Prince of Wales, the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, the Grand Duke of Hesse, and Prince Alexander of Hesse will visit St. Petersburg. Prince Frederick Charles is also expected to attend as the representative of the German Court, and deputations from all the German regiments of which the Czar is honorary commander will be present.

According to a Berlin telegram in the *Morning Post*, news has come from St. Petersburg that the Czar has finally resolved to reorganise the police and to place it under a Minister of Police such as has charge of the department in other Continental States of Europe. The Czar also proposes to create a Ministry of Commerce and to appoint a Minister of State as its head.

We have from St. Petersburg an official contradiction of the report that the Tekke Turcomans had gained a second victory over the Russian forces in Central Asia, and had been joined by the frontier tribes of Khiya and Persia. It is said that the latest news received merely mentions an attack by the Tekke Turcomans on a Russian transport.

TURKEY.

An exchange of notes is taking place between Sir Henry Layard and the Porte relative to the Ahmed Tewfik affair. In the latest note Sawas Pasha again seeks to justify the seizure of Dr. Koeller's papers, and repeats that the release of Ahmed was an act of grace on the part of the Sultan.

Hafiz Pasha has been appointed aide-de-camp to the Sultan, retaining his post of Minister of Police.

GREECE.

The Ministry has resigned in consequence of being defeated on Monday in the Chamber of Deputies. The Minister of Finance had asked the House to vote 2,500,000 drachmas of the loan of 60,000,000 on account of the Treasury being empty. The proposal was treated as a Cabinet question, and on a division the Government received 73 votes against 79 of the Opposition. M. Tricoupis has been asked by the King to undertake the task of forming a Ministry.

The indictment of M. Sotiros Petmezas, ex-Minister of War, has been postponed in consequence of the crisis.

Prince William, uncle of King George, has arrived at Athens.

ROUMANIA.

The bill for the purchase of the Roumanian railways by the State was adopted on Tuesday in the Chamber of Deputies by a large majority. The Administrative Palace in Jassy has been burnt down.

AMERICA.

The House of Representatives has rejected the bill providing that the national banks should keep half their reserve in coin. On Monday the House adopted by 175 votes to 62 the resolution declaring it to be an infringement of the constitutional prerogative of the House for the Executive to negotiate commercial treaties. The Senate has confirmed the nominations of Mr. James Russell Lowell as Minister to Great

Britain, Mr. John W. Foster to Russia, and Mr. Lucian Fairchild to Spain.

The Maine Republicans last Saturday night, apprehending attempts by the Fusionists to dislodge them, garrisoned the State House with three companies of troops and one gun. Fears of disturbances are still entertained. A proclamation has been issued by the Fusionist Governor of Maine, in which he denounces the Republicans as revolutionists, and declares that the Fusionists never contemplated employing force, as they rely entirely upon legal and constitutional methods. On the other hand, the Republicans maintain that they possess indisputable evidence that their precautionary measures only came just in time to prevent the intended seizure of the public buildings by the Fusionists. The decision of the Maine Supreme Court on the points recently submitted for their consideration by the Fusionist Legislature declines to recognise the latter as a legal body, and explicitly declares the Republican Organisation to be the legitimate State Legislature.

The Louisiana Legislature have elected General Gibson (Democrat) and the Mississippi Legislature General George (Democrat), as United States Senators for Louisiana and Mississippi respectively.

The consolidation of the Union Pacific, Kansas and Pacific, and Denver and Pacific Railways has been accomplished, under the name of the Union Pacific Railway.

A number of locomotives belonging to the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company have been seized by the revenue officers to enforce payment of a claim of 168,000 dols. pending against the company, and as a test case for the settlement of similar claims amounting in the aggregate to 500,000 dols.

A fire occurred on Monday on the steam-boat Charmer on the Red River (Louisiana), causing the death of eight persons.

Mr. Parnell gave a lecture at Cleveland last Saturday night, the produce of which, including the receipts for admission, was about 2000 dols. The *Irish Times* special correspondent telegraphs from Cleveland that the greatest demonstration yet held took place there on Saturday night. Fully fifty thousand people joined the procession, which took forty minutes to pass through the streets. There were nearly a thousand torch-lights, a dozen bands, several hundred banners, and the wildest acclamations. The coach, with horses, which conveyed Mr. Parnell could hardly pass for people struggling to kiss his hand. Mr. Parnell made a speech to a large audience at Buffalo (State of New York) on Sunday, and denounced both the Duchess of Marlborough's relief fund and that of the Dublin Mansion House, on the ground that no relief would be granted from those funds to sufferers who were in default with their rent. Cardinal M'Closkey has directed a collection in aid of Irish distress to be made in the churches of his diocese on Feb. 1.

The Lower House of the Legislature of the State of New York has adopted a motion granting to Mr. Parnell the privilege of addressing the house on the subject of the distress in Ireland.

CANADA.

We hear from Ottawa that the Hon. R. D. Wilmot has resigned the Speakership of the Senate.

Mr. Parnell has issued an appeal to the people of Canada urging prompt contributions through the National Land League, because, as he declares, the machinery of Government relief is so dilatory that thousands will probably perish before they are aided thereby.

The Mayor of Montreal has agreed to welcome Mr. Parnell to that city on the understanding that his mission shall be exclusively directed to secure relief for the sufferers from the distress in Ireland. The subscriptions there for the relief of the distress in Ireland are very considerable.

From Toronto the sum of 1250 dols. has been forwarded to the Duchess of Marlborough's Relief Fund. Appeals in aid of the fund were made last Sunday in many Catholic churches throughout the country. A large aggregate sum was collected.

Arrangements are in progress at Halifax for a new American Arctic exploring expedition, under the leadership of Dr. Emil Bessels, a member of the late Captain Hall's Polaris expedition. Much distress prevails among the shore fishermen in that province.

SOUTH AFRICA.

By the Durban, which arrived at Plymouth on Monday from the Cape, correspondence and letters to the 6th inst. have arrived. The *Cape Argus* represents the speech delivered by Sir Garnet Wolseley at Pretoria as having created a painful impression amongst all who are desirous of seeing a pacification of the Transvaal; but other papers regard it as a wholesome expression of the intentions of the Government.

AUSTRALIA.

Melbourne news to Dec. 10 states that after the division in the Legislative Assembly on the Reform Bill, with the result previously telegraphed—namely, the adoption of the measure by 43 against 38, or one less than the requisite absolute majority—the question whether a statutory majority had been obtained was submitted by the Government to ten counsel, the majority of whom gave opinions adverse to the Ministry. Mr. Berry then waited upon the Governor, who assented to a dissolution, which is only deferred owing to the necessity of passing the financial bills. Mr. Berry has been speaking in the provinces, and has vehemently denounced the conduct of those members who had abandoned the Government. In the action brought by the Melbourne *Daily Telegraph* against Mr. Berry for libel, the newspaper has been non-suited, the Court deciding that a corporation cannot prosecute for slander.

Several gold mines are said to have been discovered in Eastern Siberia.

Intelligence from Lima states that 300 lives were lost during the revolution in that city on Dec. 22, by which Pierola became Dictator of Peru.

The *Standard* says that a vacancy is about to be created in the Council of the Viceroy of India by the return to England of Sir John Strachey, K.C.S.I., who will leave Calcutta within the next few weeks, and, in all probability, will not return.

The Queen has approved of the appointment of Sir William C. F. Robinson, Governor of the Straits Settlements, whose health requires a change of climate, to be Governor of Western Australia, in the place of Major-General Sir Harry Ord, who has resigned that government, having completed the term for which he was appointed.

The emigration return for 1879 shows an immense exodus from the port of Liverpool: as many as 117,914 emigrants left the Mersey during the year. Of these 61,861 were English and 13,004 Irish, the remainder being chiefly foreigners. The returns show a total increase of 46,762 as compared with the previous year, being 24,922 more English and 5027 more Irish.

Alderman Wilberforce was on Tuesday elected Lord Mayor of York, in place of the late Alderman Watkinson.

The Pope has sent a beautifully wrought pyx to the Church of St. Peter's, Hatton-garden, as an act of public reparation for the sacrilege recently committed there.

MUSIC.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

The performances of the Carl Rosa Opera Company still continue, as they deserve, to prove attractive. Last Saturday evening "Maritana" was given for the first time this season, the cast having been in most essential respects the same as in last year's performances by the same company. Again were Miss Georgina Burns, Miss Josephine Yorke, and Mr. Joseph Maas respectively excellent representatives of the characters of Maritana, Lazarillo, and Don Caesar de Bazan. The first-named lady was encored in "Scenes that are brightest;" Miss Yorke having obtained the same result after her delivery of the song, "Alas! those chimes." Mr. Maas gave his music with great effect, and had to repeat the martial song, "Yes, let me like a soldier fall." As usual, one of the special successes of the evening was the tuneful trio, "Turn on, old Time," for Lazarillo, Don Caesar, and Don José. The cast was efficiently completed by Mr. Ludwig as Don José (his song, "In happy moments," having been encored), Mr. Snazelle as the King, Miss E. Collins as the Marchioness, and Mr. Brooklyn as the Marquis.

On Tuesday Sir Julius Benedict's "Lily of Killarney" was given, for the first time this season, with a cast similar, in most important respects, to that of last year, including Miss Julia Gaylord as Eily O'Connor, Miss Giulia Warwick as Anne Chute, Miss Josephine Yorke as Mrs. Cregan, Mr. Packard as Hardress Cregan, and Mr. C. Lyall as Myles Na-Coppaleen. The characters of Father Tom and Danny Mann were efficiently filled, respectively, by Mr. Snazelle and Mr. L. Crotty, subordinate parts having been assigned to Messrs. Leahy, D. Thomas, and Harrington. There were several encores, including that of the concerted piece based on the old Irish melody "The Cuiskeen Lawn."

The other announcements for this week were repetitions of operas as recently commented on, with the exception of Thursday evening, when the production of Wagner's "Lohengrin" was promised, for the first time in an English version—the adaptation being by Mr. J. P. Jackson, by whom the texts of Wagner's "Der Fliegende Hollander" ("The Flying Dutchman") and "Rienzi" were also supplied for the Carl Rosa company. Of the first performance of this version of "Lohengrin" we must speak next week.

The Burns birthday commemoration concert, which took place at St. James's Hall on Saturday evening last, comprised a performance of the late Mr. Howard Glover's cantata, "Tain o' Shanter," in which Mr. Sims Reeves sang the tenor solo, as in the original production of the work at the Birmingham festival of 1855. Again this eminent artist gave great effect to his share of the music, the choral portions of which were finely sung by the Scottish Choral Society (conducted by Mr. R. Latter), as were some harmonised airs in the course of the evening. The programme was altogether of a national character, and included favourite Scotch songs and ballads rendered by Madame Patey, Miss Meason, Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. W. Clifford, and Mr. Maybrick. Miss Clinton Fynes contributed a pianoforte solo and Mr. MacGrath one on the cornet. The concert was appropriately opened by an orchestral performance of Mendelssohn's "Isles of Fingal" overture. Mr. Weist Hill and Mr. Sidney Naylor acted as conductors.

The eighth of the present series of London Ballad Concerts was rendered special by the second part of the programme having been devoted to a selection of Irish music. Mr. Sims Reeves again contributed to the attractions of the evening by his fine singing of "The Last Rose of Summer" in the second part of the programme, and of Blumenthal's "The Message" in the first part. A specialty in the earlier portion of this concert was the very effective singing of some of Mr. Stedman's choir boys in the refrain of Claribel's song, "Children's Voices," the solo part of which was well rendered by Madame Mary Cummings. Other vocal pieces were successfully given during the evening by that lady, Madame Edith Wynne, Miss Mary Davies, Miss Damian, Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. Santley, Mr. Maybrick, and Mr. A. Moore, and by the members of the London Vocal Union; in addition to which, pianoforte and harp solos were cleverly played, respectively, by Mr. Sidney Naylor and Mr. J. Cheshire.—At this week's concert the programme included a selection of old English songs.

The fifth concert of the ninth season of the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society took place last week, when Verdi's "Requiem" and Rossini's "Stabat Mater" were given. These two remarkable pieces of Catholic service music, each by a prominent composer of the modern Italian school, have too often been performed and commented on to need detailed notice now. Suffice it to say that each work received a worthy rendering on the occasion now referred to, when the vocal solos were excellently sung by Misses A. Williams and De Fonblanche, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Herr Henschel. The choruses and the orchestral details were also finely given. Mr. Barnby conducted, and Dr. Stainer presided at the organ, as usual. The society's next concert will take place on Feb. 11, when "The Messiah" is to be performed.

This week's Monday Popular Concert included the remarkable pianoforte-playing of Dr. Hans von Bülow, whose solo piece was the last of the grand series of Beethoven's sonatas—that in C minor, op. 111. The pianist was also heard, in association with Signor Piatti, in Beethoven's sonata in G minor for pianoforte and violoncello; and with the same artist, Madame Norman-Néruda, and Mr. Zerbini, in Rheinberger's quartet in E flat. A rather uninteresting string quartet by Haydn opened the concert, which included vocal pieces, well rendered by Miss Amy Aylward, accompanied by Mr. Zerbini.

The twenty-fourth season of the Crystal Palace Saturday afternoon concerts will be resumed this week with the twelfth performance of the series. The programme will consist of a selection from the works of Schubert, in commemoration of the birthday of that composer.

Dr. Hans von Bülow gave a pianoforte recital at St. James's Hall on Wednesday afternoon, when his programme included the last of the six "Suites Anglaises" of Bach, Beethoven's sonata in E flat (from op. 31), and various pieces by Brahms, Chopin, Liszt, and Rubinstein.

On Thursday next the Philharmonic Society will begin its sixty-eighth season. The programme of the opening concert comprises a manuscript overture by Mr. W. Macfarren, entitled "Hero and Leander," Signor Piatti's violoncello concerto, Schumann's "Concertstück" for piano and orchestra (with Madame Montigny-Rémaury as pianist), Beethoven's symphony in A, and the late Hermann Goetz's "Frühlings" overture.

Mendelssohn's oratorio "St. Paul" will be performed by the Sacred Harmonic Society at Exeter Hall on Friday next, Feb. 6, at 7.30, under the direction of Sir Michael Costa. The principal vocalists will be Mrs. Osgood and Miss Julia Elton, Messrs. Edward Lloyd, Chaplin Henry, and Santley.

Professor Jebb, of Glasgow, gave on Tuesday, before the Philosophical Institute of Edinburgh, the first of two lectures on "Modern Greece."

THEATRES.

The Haymarket opens to-night, under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft, with Lord Lytton's comedy of "Money." The cast is a decidedly good one, including Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Arthur Cecil, and other popular performers. New scenery by Messrs. Harford and John O'Connor add to the attractions, as also a new curtain, designed and painted by Mr. Daniel White and Mr. John O'Connor, suggested by the performance of "The School for Scandal" at the Prince of Wales's. The auditorium has been reconstructed by Mr. C. J. Phipps, F.S.A., and a startling innovation introduced. The old pit is entirely abolished, and the space occupied by stalls, it being impossible, say the management, "with the present expenses of a first-class theatre, to give up the floor of the house to low-priced seats." The usual audience for such seats will find accommodation in the second box circle. The ceiling also has been raised, a new stone staircase built, with a comfortable refreshment-room, and a clear view of the stage secured by arrangements that remove the obstacles which formerly existed. A morning performance of "Money" will be given next Saturday.

Mr. Toole returned to the Folly on Wednesday, appearing in "Paul Pry" and "Domestic Economy."

A new comedy, entitled "Ourselves," by Mr. F. C. Burnand, was produced on Thursday at the Vaudeville.

After the withdrawal of the pantomime at Sadler's Wells Mrs. Crowe will reappear as Mary Warner pending the production of "Macbeth," which will be carefully produced, to be followed by a Shakespearian series, including "Othello," "King Lear," "Hamlet," and "Julius Caesar."

Mr. Frederick Burgess, to whose liberal enterprise the popularity of the entertainment at St. James's Hall with which his name, with that of Mr. G. W. Moore, has long been associated is in no small degree due, took his fifteenth annual benefit at St. James's Great Hall on Monday. There were two performances—the one in the afternoon, the other in the evening—and the programme for each occasion was exceptionally attractive. The sentimental ballads, comic songs, and accustomed drolleries of the minstrels proper were supplemented with a variety of musical and dramatic sketches by artists of high reputation from the principal West-End theatres. A special attraction was a selection from Sheridan's "Critic," the cast including several of the most eminent comedians on the metropolitan stage.

THE QUARTERLIES.

The *Quarterly Review** has two biographical articles in very different styles. In that on Prince Metternich the light touch of Mr. Hayward is easily recognisable; that on Bolingbroke is remarkable for the successful but almost servile imitation of the mannerism of Macaulay. Macaulay's trick of expression is more easy of acquisition than his massive common sense, the lack of which gives a character of lightness and inconsistency to the essay. Mr. Hayward's penetration, on the other hand, is piercing as far as it goes, but it does not affect to go deep. A better paper than either, perhaps, is a luminous and truly masterly, though necessarily compressed, review of the progress of Greek culture and the gradual civilisation of the barbarian world under Alexander and his successors. A paper on "The Progress of Taste" is chiefly directed against modern aestheticism of the classical and Renaissance types. There are two political manifestoes, and the review of Bishop Wilberforce's biography is virtually an ecclesiastical one.

The *New Quarterly* offers remarkable variety, but little of remarkable interest. There are, however, three really valuable papers on "The Anti-Rent Agitation in Ireland," "The Treatment of Vagrancy," and "Middle-Class Education," the latter by Mr. Mark Pattison. "Italian Affairs" is also an important article, pointing out the weak points of the present situation with the concern of an anxious and judicious friend. Of the lighter contributions Mr. Julian Sturgis's story "Michael and I" is the most interesting.

The *Modern Review* is apparently designed to fill the place in periodical literature once so honourably occupied by the *National Review*, but with a larger proportion of theological and philosophical articles. Some of the contributions to the first number are very able, especially Dr. Carpenter's essay on "The Force Behind Nature," and Mr. Hargrave's, on Thomas Aquinas. One especial feature is to be the comparative brevity, and hence the number, of the papers.

The contents of the *Church Quarterly*, not to mention articles on the Revision of the Rubrics, and the "Petrine Claims," of merely ecclesiastical concern, all bear upon religious topics. Canon Farrar's "Life of St. Paul" is reviewed, and so is M. Réman's "Eglise Chrétienne." There is little of general literary interest.

ON THE MARCH FROM MOSCOW.

The bitter, persistent, or again and again recurring coldness of the winter, which began so early and threatens to continue so late, is exceptional in its intensity, duration, and extension throughout Europe. As we sit by our blazing hearth, should we not think—can we help thinking—of the sufferings of the poor and destitute, the afflicted and unemployed, at this season? And do not our sympathies warm to all brave men far away on sea or land exposed to the northern blast. A terrible disaster of winter was that fatal "March from Moscow." No need to recount the many myriads that perished, or describe the horrors, so graphically depicted by Count Séguir, of that retreat. In the picture we engrave (which was in a recent exhibition of the Academy)—the able work of the rising young artist Mr. L. J. Pott—a typical incident of the retreat is conceived. Discipline has long since become impossible. A fractional remnant of the Grand Army alone remains. Each man, whether of the Guard or the Line, whether dragoon or lancer, is the representative of whole regiments left behind. Comrades and horses are already food for wolves. No longer can many bear the weight of helmet, cap, and accoutrements; while some, in their despair, throw even arms aside, though the savage Cossack may still hang on their rear. Death marches with them; and as one by one falls, overcome by fatigue, hunger, cold, and sleep, his felon fingers close on the fainting heart. Yet still they press onwards through the scathing, blinding wind over the boundless white plains, ignorant of road or track, though the darkling snow-cloud lowers over them, ominous of pall and shroud; and, though the sun is setting for some or all for ever, yet still they press onwards, weary, famished, frostbitten, for *la belle France*, for the pleasant sunny land of France. Hope is not even yet thrown aside; nor is the human kindness that in such an extremity is the noblest heroism—witness that veteran of the Guard, who has divested himself of musket and bearskin to carry on his back the little drummer-boy of his regiment, with the *tambour* he will not part with, and who yet consequently leads the van.

Tuesday's *Gazette* announces that Lord Denman has been appointed Deputy Lieutenant of the county of Haddington.



ON THE MARCH FROM MOSCOW. BY L. J. POTT.—SEE PAGE 103.

TALK OF THE WEEK.

Skating, like swimming, is one of those arts that, once mastered, never appears to be forgotten. If this were not so, how would it happen that such skill is shown whenever a hard spell of frost sends the athletic world in search of exercise to pond, lake, canal, or river. It often happens in England that a winter passes without any opportunity of hunting out the skates from the corner of a forgotten cupboard, and yet directly the ice bears the sight-seer is rewarded with the pleasure of overlooking some very excellent sport, whether fancy or inclination take one to the artisans on the ornamental water at St. James's or to the aristocratic company at Prince's Club in Hans-place. In a double sense, rinkling has proved advantageous to the thousands who have recently tried the outside and inside edge, cut figures and made spread eagles on the frozen surface of our innumerable sheets of water, for it has given confidence, grace, and tasteful movement to the ladies, and has afforded a perfectly safe substitute for orthodox ice. With the memory of the Regent's Park accident registered on our minds, with newly reported disasters that have proved fatal to undergraduates on the Cherwell and on the Duke of Marlborough's lake at Blenheim, near Woodstock, with examples of canals yielding to sudden pressure and of immersions whose danger may be fatally prolonged, it was not to be wondered at that there should be hesitation when the girls asked permission to try the lake at the Welsh Harp at Hendon or the Hampstead ponds. A flooded sink well frozen over serves the purpose of ice remarkably well; and society, profiting by the amiable suggestion of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, has attended Prince's Club in full force, carrying on this exhilarating amusement far into the night, when coloured lamps were lighted on the trees, the electric light was shed upon the scene, and Fashion enjoyed itself to its heart's content. A pretty English girl, fur-clad and in buoyant spirits, flushed with the exhilaration of the exercise, and skilful on her skates withal, is as merry a sight as can well be imagined, and at Prince's Club during the skating fêtes there has been a succession of such animated pictures.

Close upon forty years ago Mr. Benjamin Webster, who was then the lessee of the Haymarket Theatre, astonished play-going London with two important novelties. He, defiant of all prejudice, introduced gas and orchestra stalls. Hitherto wax candles had illuminated the audience, and the pit had enjoyed the privilege of the whole floor of the house. These were the days when autocratic ideas animated the bulk of the audience, when the walking gentleman found that it was his duty to announce each night the subsequent programme, and to run the risk of a volley of hisses, when occasionally the stentorian shout of "Manager! manager!" was resisted at the peril of that nervous individual, when plays were finally condemned after one hearing, and when actors who had failed to please were jocularly warned that any repetition of such folly would not be tolerated. What would the orthodox and dreaded pit of forty years ago have done, I wonder, had they perused the manifesto of Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft, which abolishes the Haymarket pit for ever and gives economical reasons for favouring the stalls and sending the cheap folk up stairs? Surely the argument concerning the expenses of a first-class entertainment might, even in the olden times, have been severely handled when such giants as Macready, Phelps, Tyrone Power, David Rees, Charles Mathews, Madame Vestris, Mrs. Glover, the elder Farren, *et hoc genus omne*, were to be seen at the Haymarket, and it was not deemed necessary to banish the backbone of the house for the sake of extravagance or fastidiousness in decoration. There is much, no doubt, to be said in favour of the abolition of that time-honoured institution the Haymarket pit, but very much more against it. On the whole, however, it would have been advisable if "reasons" had been carefully avoided. The manager who gives reasons provokes controversy.

Readers of London newspapers that are published every morning have recently been astonished at finding a strong inclination towards illustrated matter in order to assist the mind in following the reports, essays, and descriptions that are set out for them. The letters of the special correspondent at the seat of war are accompanied by a map of a rough-and-ready description, but sufficient for the immediate purpose; such disasters as those at the Tay Bridge bring forward some hasty outline giving just the suspicion of the architectural formation; and the other day, to show how this innovation is spreading, one of the daily papers published, to the astonishment of its readers, the facsimile of the letter that has so puzzled the detectives engaged in trying to find out the murderer of the servant-girl near Manchester. Strange to say, it was this very facsimile that gave the police the first probable clue to the solution of the mystery. Someone at the extreme north of England recognised the handwriting. The bare outline of the idea was promptly communicated, two and two were put together, and an arrest was made at a lodging-house in Plymouth. We shall see what will follow.

London cannot be accused of any reticence or dilatoriness in the matter of clubs. There are clubs for all tastes and every shade of opinion, from the man who cannot eat his dinner except it is cooked on a gridiron, to the individual who combines with his friends and associates to worship Rabelais. There are art clubs, theatrical clubs, scientific and gambling clubs; there are innumerable cosy haunts where it is possible to drop in and be very comfortable after the theatre; there are institutions like the Circle Club, where artists, good fellows one and all, pat one another on the back and make, as they did the other evening at the Pall-Mall Restaurant, under the presidency of Mr. Godfrey Turner, very admirable speeches; and there are sketching clubs, as at the Langham, where the inspection of pretty pictures is followed by a hearty repast of honest bread-and-cheese and a refreshing salad. As yet we have not arrived at the aesthetic completeness of the German Club in Newman-street, where the deepest and most profound intellect is mingled with conviviality; although the smoking-concerts of Lord Dunmore at the Grosvenor Hall promise to come up to the musical and artistic level of the older and more elaborate German Society, where ladies are found on very select and special occasions. In alluding, however, to the modern fancy for a refined and cultured form of pleasant Bohemianism, it may be interesting to note that on the hundredth night of "The Merchant of Venice" Mr. Henry Irving intends to invite to the old Beefsteak Club-Room attached to the Lyceum Theatre a most brilliant and representative collection of men famous in letters and art. This fine old apartment, long neglected and devoted to the storage of theatrical properties, is being decorated for the occasion; and it is hoped that many of the articles of Beefsteak furniture, scattered at the sale some years ago, may be reunited on this memorable evening. The chairs and the silver gridiron are, of course, in existence.

In any contest between the police and the public every possible point should be strained in favour of the police. Few who have had any experience of foreign countries would willingly wish to exchange our bold, sturdy, and, on the whole, eminently good-tempered policemen for the semi-military and ever-insolent officials who keep the peace in Germany or France.

We talk here sometimes hastily of the overbearing ways of the patient fellow who tramps diligently along the pavement these cold and foggy nights, we make particular cases into general accusations, we chaff the defenders of our households every Christmas in the pantomime, and we aver that he has a sneaking fondness for the contents of the larder; but on the whole the London policeman is more sinned against than sinning, and in these days of burglars with revolvers his duty is not an enviable one. Still, it is rather awkward, when you pay an innocent visit to a fashionable theatre and desire to see the smiling face of your future Sovereign, to be suddenly arrested for pocket-picking, hustled away to the police-station, thrust into a cell, refused bail, imprisoned all night in a revolting den, and then released in the morning with an apology. This was the precise position of an unfortunate gentleman who was the unhappy victim of over zeal. There have been frequent and serious complaints of pocket-picking at the doors of theatres. Detectives were put on to make an arrest. Somebody was bound to be taken, or the credit of the detectives would be at fault; and so somebody was arrested—only, unfortunately, it was the wrong man. The error is due to the fixed police determination to catch someone, cost what it will. Precisely the same thing happened a year or so since at the St. James's Hall. There had been complaints about pocket-picking at the afternoon concerts. An arrest was, under such circumstances, inevitable; and they actually blundered so badly that they bundled off to the police-station the wife of a German Professor, passionately fond of music, whose excitability to get away quickly to her boy, who was at a pastry-cook's over the way, caused the unfortunate lady to be suspected as a thief. Searched, suspected, remanded, and insulted, she had no redress whatever; and it cost her husband a considerable amount of money to obtain a declaration of her complete innocence.

Mr. J. O. Halliwell-Phillipps, the well-known Shakespearean scholar and enthusiast, has written a pamphlet some thirty pages long in order to settle for ever the momentous question "respecting the E and the A in the name of our National Dramatist." A very bright and sparkling brochure is this controversial tract dated from Hollingbury Copse, Brighton; but its most original feature is a hospitable invitation to Shakespearean students—and they must be legion—to visit the author and look over his library, containing "the choicest Shakespearean rarities in the world, and an unrivalled collection of drawings and engravings illustrative of the life of the great dramatist." Nay, more, Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps promises to entertain his guests in splendid fashion. "The feast of reason," he says, "shall be irrigated by the flow of port, claret, or madeira, and by what is not now to be seen every day of the week, really good sherry. As for the teetotallers, they are promised "an inexhaustible supply of the pure aqueous element from our deep chalk wells." But, supposing all the Shakespearean students in the United Kingdom accepted the universal invitation on the same day, how long would the cellars or the wells of Hollingbury Copse hold out?

No one can express much doubt concerning the universality of the noble game of cricket when we find it played at almost precisely the same moment, day for day, on a frozen pond at Neath, in South Wales, and as a match between two crack English regiments before one of the native Princes in India. One game was on skates and the other on an extraordinary ground manufactured out of compressed sand, dust, chopped straw, and miscellaneous refuse. And there was a peculiar feature in the frozen as in the tropical contest. In the former case the great point to be observed was the extraordinary cleverness in the art of fielding exhibited by a retriever dog, and in the latter the hopeless mental obliquity of the distinguished chieftain, who obstinately refused to take the slightest interest in the game. Dogs have been trained before now to field out at cricket, and will doubtless continue to show their skill both on the ice and on the turf; but apparently to induce an Indian Prince to show much enthusiasm on the subject of the game will be a work of profound difficulty. On the occasion in question the distinguished spectator only once roused himself to energy, and that was when it was proposed that his children should be taught to play cricket. Once more puzzling his brain upon the mystery of "overs," he rejected the proposition with scorn.

Surely no one is foolish enough to post a letter without a stamp, unless he finds overnight that the importance of the step warrants this apparent act of forgetfulness, and no human being ever registered a letter unless he desired it to arrive safely and speedily at its destination, and yet unfranked and registered letters are the only ones religiously delayed at the first delivery in the morning. And why? Not because there is any dread that the money due will not be paid, but simply on account of the inevitable absence of a responsible clerk or servant. Our excellent Post Office is occasionally ingenious in the deliberate encouragement of these minor acts of forgetfulness, that might be construed into courtesy. The postman is not allowed to trust a customer for twopence for two hours, and the telegraph clerk insists nowadays that every lady shall moisten and adhere a shilling stamp on the form before she transmits her message. Why should monopolies encourage little acts of irritation? And yet it is so. Gas, Water, and Post.

Vice-Admiral Sir Frederick B. P. Seymour, K.C.B., has been nominated to succeed Admiral Sir G. T. Hornby in command of the Mediterranean squadron.

The annual exhibition of the Yeovil and Somerset Poultry Show was held last week in the Townhall, Corn Exchange, and the adjacent market buildings. The number of entries reached almost 1300. There were 116 different classes, in most of which the competition was remarkably close.

A correspondent has directed our attention to the fact that a few red deer, as we understand, twenty or thirty head, are kept in an inclosed ground near Ascot-heath for the purpose of hunting with the Royal Buckhounds, instead of turning out fallow deer, as was implied in our notice of the hounds last week. The red deer are to be seen in a wild state on Exmoor, as well as in the Scottish Highlands, and were formerly extant in the New Forest of Hampshire. The Royal Buckhounds are under the charge of Mr. Frank Goodall, the Huntsman, not "Keeper," who was at one time connected with the Exmoor Stag Hunt.

The annual meeting of the members and friends of the London Orphan Asylum was held on Monday at the City Terminus—Mr. A. R. Capel, treasurer, in the chair. During the past year 103 children were admitted to the benefits of the institution, of which seventy-six were admitted by election, nineteen by purchase, and eight by presentation. For the ninth time, the receipts of the institution had been augmented by the anonymous donation of 100 guineas paid into the bankers by an unknown hand. The following were the principal items in the accounts:—Annual subscriptions and donations, £7625; life subscriptions, £2040; legacies, £4999; total receipts, including balance, &c., £18,766; expenditure, £17,740; leaving a balance in hand of £1026.

WILL OF SIR NICHOLAS ALWYN, 1505.

In Lord Lytton's work, "The Last of the Barons," one Master Nicholas Alwyn plays a somewhat notable part. He is introduced to us in the first chapter, engaging in a contest at the archery-ground of Old Cockaigne, where he is only beaten by Marmaduke Neville, who is said to be his foster brother; we continually meet with him throughout as one of the lovers of Sybil; and in the last few chapters he is Captain of a troop of bow and bill men raised in London, fighting for Edward IV. at the battle of Barnet, where he is credited with having killed with his shaft "no less a person than the Duke of Exeter." In a footnote it is stated he rose to be Lord Mayor of London in the fifteenth year of the reign of Henry VII.; and we find that Sir Nicholas Alwyn or Alwin, Alderman of Bassishaw Ward, was Sheriff in 1494 and Lord Mayor in 1499. Among the records of the Will Office may be seen, under date of February 12, 1505-6, the will of Nicholas Alwyn, Citizen and Alderman of London, dated Oct. 2, 1505, and the twenty-first year of the reign of King Henry VII., which, we think, is not only interesting in itself, but also from the identity of the testator with the Alwyn of the novel.

In these Victorian days it is neither usual for a testator to give long special directions as to the ordering of his funeral in all its details, and the particular sums of money which are to be expended on the several items, nor to make provision for religious services to be continued from the time of his decease until twenty years after; but in the reign of Henry VII. we much doubt whether any man would have been considered a good citizen or his will valid unless a large part of it was made up of such directions and provisions. Alderman Alwyn's long will has accordingly a good portion of it taken up with the expression of his wishes on these subjects. We have spoken of his will, but to be quite correct we should say testament, because, at the date we speak of, there were two documents, the will, properly so called, relating to landed property, and the testament, which dealt with what is now called the personal estate. It is from Alderman Alwyn's testament that we now propose to make some extracts.

The testator's funeral arrangements had evidently been the subject of much consideration, as will be seen from the following provisions:—"I will that myn executors shall purvey 24 torches of 20 lb. evry pece to serve at my burying and at my moneths mynde, the waast and making of the which woll cost by estymacion £6 13s. 4d. I will that John Asshe, wexchaundeler, shall make an honest herse for me, and to fynde thereto, at his cost, all the wex and werkmanship thereto belonging for the same charge, 10 marks." The honest "herse" to be made by the waxchandler rather puzzles us. Has it any reference to the modern hearse? If so, was it part of the art and mystery of the craft of a waxchandler to make it? "Item: I woll that 24 poore men shall hole the said 24 torches, as well at my burying as at my moneths mynde, and every of them to have for his labor at either tyme 4d.—sum 16s. Item: I woll that evry of the said 24 poure men shall holde the said 24 torches shall have a gowne and a hode of blake lyning, the which wole cost and extende in all by estymacion to the value of £6 13s. 4d. I bequeth to be distributed in the name of the Fader, the Sone, and the Holy Gost amongst 6000 poure people at my moneths mynde evry of them to have a penny—sum £25. I will that myn executors shall purvey, shall ordeyne an honest preest of good conversacion and vertus disposicion to syng for my soule in the said church of Our Lady of the Bowe in London, at the aualter of Seynt Nicholas, by the space of 10 hole yeres, and to keep the dailey service as other preests do, and he to have for his salary every yere in that behalf 10 marks—sum £6 13s. 4d.

The character of some of the priests at this period would appear to have been not above reproach, otherwise it would have been superfluous to direct his executors to select an "honest" priest of "virtuous" disposition. Our testator was not singular in giving such a direction—it frequently occurs in wills about this time; for instance, Alderman William Browne, the elder, whose will is dated March 20, 1507, directs his executors to "ordeyne an honest preest of good name and of vertuous disposition to syng his masse" in the church of Aldermanbury.

Alderman Alwyn's will continues:—"I will that myn executors shall yerele during 20 yeres next after my decesse kepe an obite or anniversary in the said Church of Our Lady of the Bowe for my soule, the soule of my late wif and of my childern, and all cristen soules, and spende thereupon yericly in preests and clerks wages, ryngyng of bells, brede, ale, wyne, splices, wax, and amongst the poure people of the same paryshe of our lady 13s. 4d. sum £13 6s. 8d. I will have dailey during the space of a moneth next after my decesse dirige and masse of requiem sung by note for my soule and the soules abovesaid and all cristen soules by preests and two clerks, and the conduct and evry of them to have for his labor in that behalf 10s. I will have two tapers of 4lb. a pece to brenne at my grave at divine service time during a moneth, and pay for the makynge and waast of theyme that woll extend by estymacion, 40s. I bequeth to the sextyn, for the lightyng and putting out of the same two tapers during the said moneth, 3s. 4d. I will that myn executors shall dispose amongst 3000 poure people within the liberties of the Cite of London to evry of them 12d.—sum £150." A similar bequest of 12d. a piece is made to "3000 men, women, children, and servants, riche and poure, within the towne of Spalding and Cowbit." And there is a legacy of 20s. to the two men who should keep the church door and be porters at his door at the time of his burying and month's mind. This would go to prove that mutes are not an invention of the modern undertakers.

Ample care is taken that the persons attending his funeral and month's mind shall not go away either hungry or thirsty, for the worthy Alderman, in a true civic spirit of hospitality, wills "that myn executors shall spende in mete drynk and other cost at my burying and moneths mynde £133 6s. 8d." a very large sum in 1505; and he also wills "that in all goodly haste after my moneths mynde be kept in London that myn executors shall kepe my moneths mynde at Spalding, and spend thereupon in mete and drynke and other costs £33 6s. 8d." and he bequeaths "for mete and drynke and horse mete of myn executors and overseers for 16 personnes in going and comyng to and from Spalding in executing of this my testament, 13 men and a woman a horsebake, £20, and every of them to have three yerd for a blakke gowne, price the yarde after the discretion of myn executors, £8. I bequeth to the belman that shall goo aboute Spalding to pray for my soule, 20d. I bequeth to the ryngers of the bells there 5s." And then, after legacies to priests, parish clerks, and the sexton at Spalding, there is a gift to "12 children beyng at myn obite in their surplices, every of them to have 4d." These children were probably choristers. The following clauses in the will, besides showing the value of priestly services at that time, contain very precise directions as to the religious services to be held at the gravestone of his father and mother; they run thus:—"I woll that the preest that shall on Sondayes publysh the bedrole in the pulpyt in the Paryshe Church of Spalding shall pray specially for my

soule, the soules of my fader and moder, and all cristien soules during 20 years, and that the same preest shall have for his salary or wags, quarterly, in that behalf, 6d.—sum 40s., "and shall every Sonday during the said 20 years next after my decesse purvey an honest preest of good conversacion (an honest priest again) in hys surpreys and 28 poure men and women to come to the gravestone of my fader and moder betwene matyns and mass, and the same preest and 28 poure men and women, such as can, shall say the psalme of De profundis clamavi, with the versicles and orysons thereto accustomed, and such as can not say it shall say one pater-noster, one ave, and a crede, for the soules of Richard Alwyn and Margaret, his wif, and of me, Nicholas Alwyn their sone, Robert Gayton, and all christian soules; and one of the men shall openly say, 'God have mercy on the soules of Richard Alwyn, Margaret his wif, Nicholas Alwyn their sone, Robert Gayton, and all cristien soules,' and all the other of theym shall say 'Amen.' And everyche of the same men and women to have every Sonday 1d.," and the priest was also to have 1d.

Of course, there are a considerable number of legacies to churches and religious houses for various purposes; such as forty shillings for the reparation "of the beddyng of our lady of Pownessall beside Charing Crosse," another of the same amount for the reparations of the house of "Crouched Freers" of London, and the like sum to the prior and covent of the same place to say in their church "placebo and dirige and masse of requiem by note for my soule and all cristien soules." The testator always bargained for the mass of requiem to be by "note." The prioresses and "nones" of Stratford atte Bowe and Clerkenwell, the Abbess and Covent of the Minoresses, the Prioresses and Covents of Kylbone, Holywell, Heigham Kent, and "Seynt Helyn, Bishoppersgate," also get legacies; and he wills that "every preest preaching at Seynt Mary Spite and Poules Crosse shall have at every tyme there preaching to publyshe my name there to be praeid for 4d. as long as 40s. thereto shall endure." Among the other legacies for religious purposes we may mention the bequest of £13 6s. 8d. to be bestowed in buying twenty vestments to be given to poor churches at the discretion of his executors; 20s. for the reparation of the body of the Church of Saint Mary Stanyng; £5 towards the "garnishing" of the new chapel within the parish Church of Saint Mary Magdalene, Milk-street, or to the Church work, at the discretion of his executors; and to separate churches "a soverayn of gold," "my crymsyn gowne lined with damask and 3 yerdes of blak velvet," "a vestment of rede worstede bordered with floures," and "the vestment of rede worstede that my chapelyn doth syng att auer in my house."

The charitable bequests are very interesting. The first we notice is as follows:—"I bequeath £40 to be bestowed in halfe peny breds amongst the poor prisoners of Ludgate, Newgate, the two Comptors, the Kynges Benche, the Marshalsea, the Flete, the Gate House, and the convict prysone at Westminster, every prisoner to have thereof at a tyme 3 half penny loffe whan nede shal be, and the same £40 to be delivered to Alice Hedge, my servant, and she to have the distribution thereof after the form abovesaid and to have for hir labor in that behalf the advantage, that is to say the penny upon the sheling." After this comes the gift of £40 to be applied at the discretion of his executors in the deliverance of poor prisoners of Ludgate and Newgate as shall lie there for 13s. 4d. or under.—40s. is to be disposed of amongst the "susters" of each of the Spites of Seynt Mary, Seynt Bartilmewys, and Seynt Thomas; the poor lazare people of each of the places of "Seynt Gille-in-the Felde," "Kyngslonde," and the like to have 20s. amongst them; and 40 poor men and women of Spalding and Cowbit are to have each a gown of "Northern Tawney" containing three yards of broad cloth at 16d. the yard, making a total cost of £8."

Whether it was his public spirit or for the improvement of the properties he had in the several neighbourhoods we do not know; probably it was partly the one and partly the other. But there are bequests for the reparations of the ways between Streatham and Tottinge boke, London and Spalding by Ware, Brigewater and Peterton, Dunstable and Hockliffe, and Streatham and Croydon, and "of the newe bridge in the heigh way that I made between Spalding and Pynchebeke."

Complimentary legacies are now usually given in the form of mourning rings; but in Alderman Alwyn's time gowns were the proper things to leave by way of memorial; and we find that his executors are directed to spend 100 marks in buying black cloth, which is to be disposed of amongst numerous persons, a list of whose names are given, and every of them is to have competent cloth for "a gown after their degree and the quantitie of their persons." Certain of the Aldermen and their wives are also left a gown of black. The twenty shillings bequeathed to the Reverend Father in God "John, Suffrygan with my Lord of Cauntbury," may also be considered complimentary.

There are several bequests to guilds and companies, two of which we give: the one is a bequest "to the fraternytie of Seynt Nicholas, founded by the paryshe clerks of London, 20s.;" and the other a gift to the "felishyp of Mercers of London sum jewell," at the price of £13 6s. 8d. We also note the bestowal of a hanging of tapestry to serve for the high deed in the Guyde Hall, or in other things to serve at the same hall at the discretion of his executors, the cost of which is to be £73 6s. 8d., and legacies to the master, fellows, clerks, tutors and poor men of Whityngdon's College in London.

Amidst these multifarious bequests, the testator did not forget those of his own household, and we find gifts to his apprentices, servants, and godsons. Some persons, with whom we presume he had business transactions, also get legacies on condition of their giving his executors a general acquittance. We must not omit to set out the legacy to his lawyer, of whom he appears to have had a high opinion:—"I bequeath to William Carkeke scryvener for making of this my testament and my last will concerning the disposicion of my lands and tenements, and for the notes concerning the same, and for other my testaments before tyme made in discharging of all things and for especial love that I owe unto him, to be delivered and paide unto him within 2 yerdes next after my decesse, £26 13s. 4d."

Probably the most curious bequest in this testament is the following:—"I bequeath to be bestowed in beyng of 200 quarte potts of pewter to be geven and disposed amongst 100 poure maydens of the citie of London and suburbs thereof at their mariage so alwey that every such mayde have 2 quarte potts, £10." So every quart pewter pot would cost one shilling.

In one or two points the Alwyn of the novel differs from Alwyn the testator; the former shoots "for the honour of old Westmoreland," while the latter evidently came from Spalding; and the former was a goldsmith, while the latter was a member of the Mercer's Company; and he states in his will that the substance of his goods was in the staple at Calais. Doubtless these discrepancies are due to the exigencies of the tale.

M. Ernest Rénan's lectures in London are fixed for April 6, 9, 13, and 16, at five p.m. On April 16 M. Rénan will also lecture at the Royal Institution at nine p.m.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.
Broome, Edmund, to be Vicar of Hurst, Berks.
Candy, Herbert; Senior Curate of St. Andrew's, Leicester.
Otley, Walter; Vicar of Bobbing, Kent.
Popplewell, William; Incumbent of the new parish of All Souls', Bolton.

The Bishop of London has taken up his residence at London House.

Mr. John Hollings has presented £2200 towards the building fund of a new church at Manningham, a suburb of Bradford, Yorkshire.

A third fine three-light Munich window, by Messrs. Mayer and Co., the gift of an anonymous donor, has been erected in the parish church of Stafford.

The Rev. W. J. Knox-Little has been holding a series of services in the English church at Bruges, which has been crowded two or three times every day.

The Bishop of Bedford (Suffragan Bishop of East London) has become a patron of the Free and Open Church Association, which is largely supported by the Episcopal Bench.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and Under-Sheriffs, went in state on Sunday morning to St. Sepulchre's Church, at the reopening service.

The Bishop of Winchester preached the reopening sermon at Oakwood, Surrey, on Tuesday, after the restoration and enlargement of the church, which dates from the thirteenth century, and is literally in the centre of an oak wood.

On Monday the church of Allhallows, Lombard-street, was formally reopened, after extensive alterations, in the presence of the Lord Major and Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs and Under-Sheriffs, who went in state from the Mansion House.

The Company appointed for the Revision of the Authorised Version of the Old Testament finished their sixty-first session yesterday week in the Jerusalem Chamber. The second revision of the historical books was continued as far as the end of 2 Kings xiv.

The Bishop of Gloucester concludes his diocesan address for 1879, after reviewing the work for the past year, by protesting against any attempt to readjust our present relations of Church and State, or to invest Convocation with powers and duties which the realm will never concede to it.

A meeting of clergy, ministers, and representatives of various religious denominations was held at Manchester on the 22nd inst. for the purpose of promoting a testimonial to the Bishop on the occasion of his marriage. A resolution in favour of the object of the meeting was unanimously passed, subscriptions to be limited to one guinea.

A correspondent, writing from Cairo, draws attention to the unfinished and humiliating condition of the English church in that city. Standing in the best part of Cairo, upon a large plot of ground, the gift of the Moslem ruler of the country, it might be made one of the prettiest in the Egyptian capital: whereas it is now the subject of disparaging remarks, both from the natives and the Christians of various denominations.

Last Saturday the wardens of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Caterham valley, presented to the Rev. W. Tebbs, on behalf of the congregation and other friends residing in the neighbourhood, a purse containing £100 and an illuminated address (in which thanks were given to Mrs. Tebbs for presiding at the organ and training the choir), on the occasion of his resigning the ministry of the above church upon his appointment to St. Matthew's, Auckland, New Zealand.

Speaking on Monday at the annual meeting of the Warwickshire Scripture Readers' Society, at Coventry, Mr. Newdigate, M.P., said that those who would preserve to England the blessing of an Established Church would do well, each in his own sphere, to exert himself in the reassertion of her Scriptural character, for it was in this she had her best and only sure foundation—her only valid security for retaining the affections of, and her position among, the people of these islands. The Bishop of Worcester and Lord Leigh were amongst the speakers.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

OXFORD.

The Hon. Charles Findley Wood, M.A., of Christ Church, and the president of Magdalen College (Rev. F. Bulley, D.D.) have been elected members of the council of Keble College, vice Dr. Pusey and the Warden of All Souls' College (Rev. Canon Leighton, D.D.), who have resigned.

Mr. Archie M'Neile Campbell, scholar of Brasenose College, has been nominated by the trustees to a Hulme Exhibition at that college.

Mr. Wilfred Cotton Sproule, from the King's School, Canterbury, and Mr. Joseph Rashton Shortt, from Christ's Hospital, have been elected to open classical scholarships at Exeter College.

The following gentlemen have been re-elected to open classical scholarships at Trinity College, of the annual value of £80, and tenable for five years:—Mr. J. H. Piggott, from St. Peter's School, York; Mr. A. V. Paton, from Nottingham High School and Clifton College; and Mr. E. Sadler, from Rugby.

At St. Mary Hall Mr. Leverdale, from Sherborne School, has been elected to a Dyke Scholarship, value £60 per annum (with a prospect of a gradual increase to £75), and tenable for four years from the day of appointment.

Mr. George Herbert Fowler, of St. John's College, has been elected to a Casberd Scholarship of the annual value of £80, tenable for four years. Mr. Fowler gained a first class in theology in Michaelmas Term, 1879. Exhibitions of £25 each have been awarded to Mr. F. W. Low and Mr. G. W. Ellis, formerly of the Merchant Taylors' School.

THE NEW ROYAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND.

The Dublin correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* says that the charter of the Queen, to which the Duke of Marlborough, Lord Lieutenant, is witness, founds a new University in Ireland, to be called "the Royal University of Ireland," under the Irish University Act (42 and 43 Vic.) of last Session, which received the Royal assent on Aug. 15, 1879. The charter has yet to be filled in with the names of the Chancellor and of the thirty-six senators, whose official appointment is made by the fact of the enrolment of the letters patent in the High Court of Chancery. The Senate is to frame a scheme to promote this Act, and to submit the same to the Lord Lieutenant for providing buildings, including examination-rooms and a library. The Senate has power to make, alter, or amend without the sanction of the Crown all statutes, laws, and ordinances for the management of the University. The place or situation of the University, and where to assemble, will be fixed from time to time by her Majesty. The rumour is revived in Dublin that the Royal College of Science buildings in St. Stephen's-green will be taken for the new University.

Professor Blackie has issued a protest on the present method of teaching Greek as a dead language, and the absurdity of substituting the Latin for the Greek accent. He

appeals to the professors in the Scottish Universities to hold a conference, and he offers to argue the matter publicly before the Royal Society of Edinburgh, or any learned body in Glasgow, or Cambridge, or Oxford, or Dublin, or London, as he is anxious as soon as possible to put an end to the empire of unreason in this matter.

Firth College, Sheffield, which was formally opened by Prince Leopold some weeks ago, is now carrying on its educational work. On Tuesday there was a large gathering in the lecture-hall, the whole staff of professors and lecturers being present, as well as the more influential inhabitants of the town. The endowment fund is now more than £16,000; and, in addition to the £20,000 which Mr. Mark Firth has expended in the erection of the building, he has also presented a chair of chemistry worth £150 a year, while Mr. Henry Firth and Mr. Edward Firth have furnished a laboratory at a cost of £1000. The college is for those students who intend hereafter to graduate at one or other of the Universities, or intend to make education their profession, but do not aim at a University degree; for schoolmasters, schoolmistresses, and teachers generally; and for those who have already commenced business, but are still willing to give a few hours a week to systematic study.

SAILING ON SKATES.

An agreeable variation of the fashionable and popular exercise of skating at this frosty season has lately been recommended for adoption. It is practised in Norway and in Holland, and likewise, we believe, in Canada. Some experiments have been made in it, with tolerable success, by private parties in England. A correspondent of the *Field*, a member of the Junior Carlton Club, who assumes the name of "Glaciernaut," was the first to describe it in that journal, on Feb. 15 of last year. His instructions may be useful to any reader who may take a fancy, after seeing our Illustration, to attempt this novel method of locomotion upon the ice. "The sail," he says, "is made of a piece of unbleached calico of oblong form, with slightly rounded ends; each end is attached (either by a lacing, as in the case of a cutter's topsail, or by a wide hem, such as is common in window blinds) to a light stick or yard, of sufficient length to stretch the ends of the sail. These sticks I call the small yards. The sail is spread by a central mainyard, long enough to project 9 in. beyond the sail at both ends; this must be strong, stiff, and light, and must be fitted at each extremity with two stout eyes, smooth on the inside. A piece of stout line (afterwards called 'lanyard') is made fast to the centre of each of the small yards, and rove through the eyes at the ends of the mainyards, then round the small yard, and through the eye again, finishing up with a 'figure of eight seizing' round the main and small yards at the points where they cross one another. One lanyard is first rove and made fast, the other is then used as a purchase to strain the sail taut. The use of the rounded ends to the sail is now seen, as the small yards buckle when the strain of the purchase comes on them. To prevent the leashes of the sail from flapping, and to relieve the small yards, a light stay is led from each end of them to the extremity of the mainyard, and made fast to the second pair of eyes already mentioned. As to size, I should recommend about 7 ft. 6 in. by 5 ft. as a good size for one skater to handle. I have found, however, that two people can manage a sail together with great comfort. Then the 9 ft. by 6 ft. sail is none too large, and I have no doubt that tall men could easily manage a much larger one. Two rows of reef points would be a great addition, and might very easily be arranged. The sail must stand perfectly flat, and the yards and gear must be stout enough to bear the strain of setting everything up taut. In sailing alone, the skater should keep the greater part of his sail behind him; otherwise he will infallibly be taken aback if the wind is before the beam. Running before the wind needs no comment, but to work to windward satisfactorily and tack smoothly requires some practice. When two go together, the sail is under perfect control. The front skater steers, and the hinder one, who is in command, trims the canvas correctly by the wind. It is equally easy to gybe or tack, and one can always stop immediately by coming head to wind. I have found this a most exciting sport, and it might be utilised for racing to any extent."

THE KINFAUNS CASTLE.

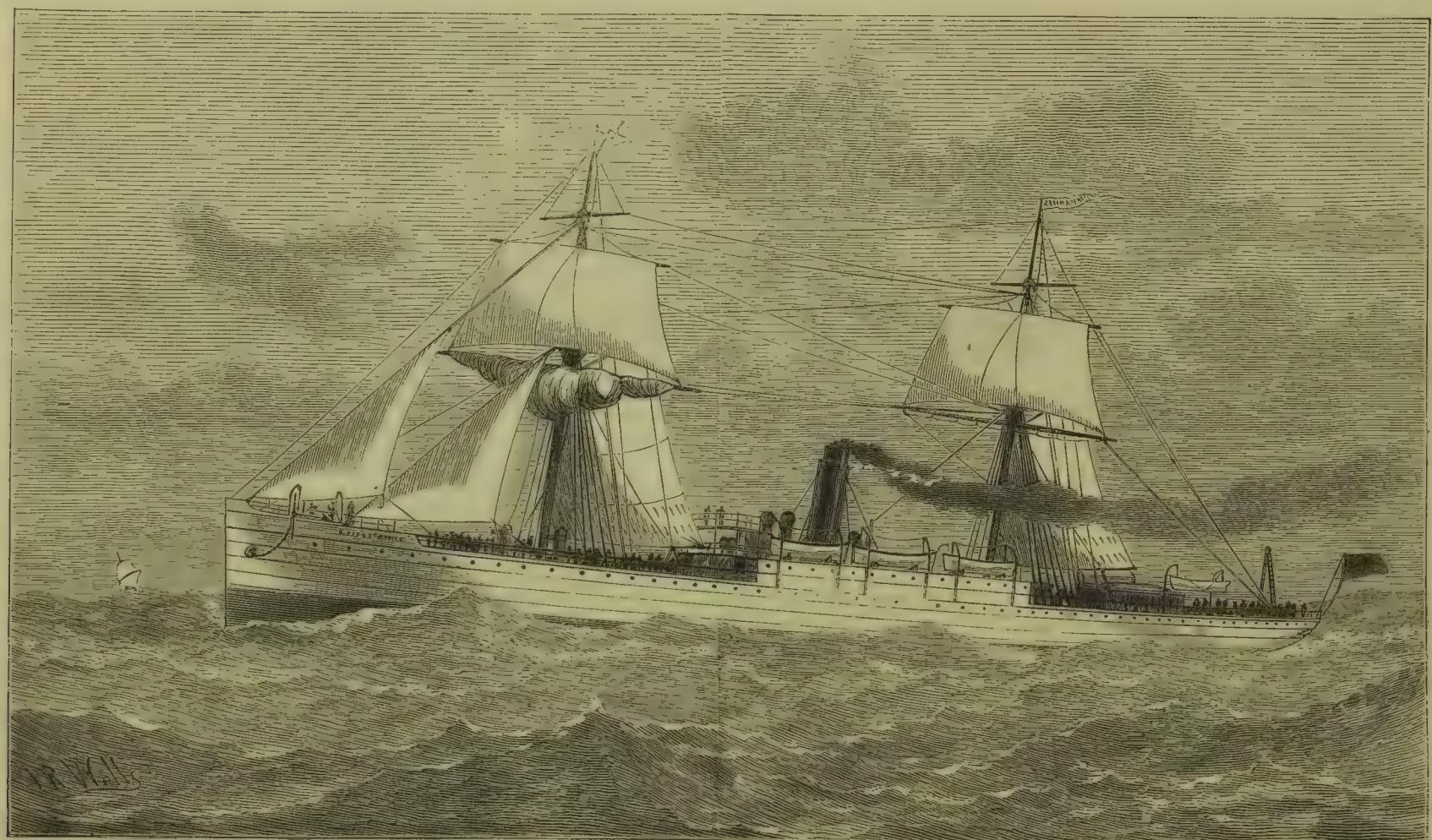
This new steam-ship, which has sailed from the South West India Docks for the Cape of Good Hope, as one of the Colonial Mail Line of Messrs. Donald Currie and Co., is the first regular ocean mail-steamer built of steel. Other merchant-steamers of steel, of which an exceptionally fast one running between Newhaven and Dieppe may be quoted as an example, have been built; but the Kinfauns Castle is the first completed example of the application of steel construction to great ocean mail-boats, a path in which the Cunard company are now to follow. The Kinfauns Castle and Grantly Castle, belonging to the same line, are sister ships, except that the Grantly Castle is of iron. The comparison of their performances will therefore be instructive. The Kinfauns Castle and Grantly Castle are over 500 to 600 tons larger than any other steamers engaged in the Cape mail service. They each carry 120 first-class passengers, 100 second-class, and 160 third-class, with a large amount of cargo, and coal enough to take them to the Cape and back to Madeira. They are structurally fitted for cruiser purposes. They have respectively three iron and three steel decks, and the upper deck is of the ordinary strength of a main deck. There are six water-tight and fireproof bulkheads, and the ship would float with any compartment full of water. The engine-room is divided by fireproof and water-tight compartments from the rest of the ship. Each of these steamers could carry ten heavy guns and steam from England to Japan by the Cape of Good Hope without coaling, either as a cruiser or as a transport for carrying troops. The saloon goes through from side to side and is 43 ft. square. There is a ladies' deck saloon, a smoking saloon, and a spacious promenade. The Kinfauns Castle was constructed by Messrs. John Elder and Co., of Glasgow, the well-known builders of the Pacific mail-steamers, and of the Atlantic mail-packet Arizona and Australian steamer Orient. The Grantly Castle was built by Messrs. Barclay, Curle, and Co., whose name is known in South Africa as having constructed the Walmer Castle, Taymouth Castle, and other vessels.

The new building of the West London School of Art, erected in Great Titchfield-street, was opened on Monday evening by Mr. H. S. Marks, R.A., who also distributed the prizes gained by the students at the late examinations. The Duke of Westminster has accepted the office of President of the school.

The Grocers' Company have granted £100 to the Society of Friends of Foreigners in Distress. The Goldsmiths' Company has presented the Society for the Suppression of Vice with £50. The Drapers' Company has presented the society with a donation of twenty guineas, and has also voted twenty guineas to the Training Hospital, Tottenham.



SAILING ON SKATES.—SEE PAGE 107.



THE STEAM-SHIP KINFURNS CASTLE, BUILT OF STEEL.—SEE PAGE 107.

LIEUTENANT KOOLEMANS-BEYNEN.

The death of this distinguished officer of the Royal Dutch Navy, who was well known to some of our own countrymen engaged in maritime and geographical exploration, has lately been mentioned with regret. It will be remembered that Lieutenant Koolemans-Beynen, having served in the Sumatra squadron, and on shore in the naval brigade at Achin, joined, by permission of Sir Allen Young, the two voyages of the Pandora, acting in the first as fourth lieutenant. He was appointed by the Netherlands Government to accompany that ship in her first voyage, to instruct himself in Arctic navigation. He was a second time a volunteer, by the desire of the Dutch Government, and again joined Sir Allen Young's vessel as an executive officer. Between the two voyages he edited a volume containing an account of the three voyages of his countryman, Willem Barents, in 1594-6, to the Arctic Regions, with a learned and exhaustive introduction, for the Hakluyt Society. He also went as second in command in the first Dutch voyage of the Willem Barents to the Polar Sea, which returned in October, 1878, but could not join the second expedition last year, having received his commission to go to India, where his life has been cut short by an accident.

The portrait we engrave is from a photograph by Wegner and Mottu, of Amsterdam.

THE DUTCH ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

Our readers may probably recollect the name of Willem Barents, the old Dutch navigator, towards the end of the sixteenth century, who made three voyages to Novaya Zemlya, in the ocean north of Europe and Asia, and there lost his life in 1597. The discovery, a few years since, of the hut in which Barents had wintered there, and of some other relics of his last expedition, roused in the minds of his countrymen a fresh interest in Arctic exploration. Some of them have latterly been engaged in spirited efforts, with very moderate pecuniary means, to continue the geographical researches, still left in an imperfect state, in the same region. The Barents Sea, as it is now called, lying north of Lapland, between Spitzbergen to the west and Novaya Zemlya to the east, has been pretty well explored; and the Austrian expedition of Lieutenants Julius Payer and Weyprecht, in the steamer Tegethoff, from 1872 to 1874, resulted in the discovery of



THE LATE LIEUTENANT KOOLEMANS-BEYNEN,
ROYAL DUTCH NAVY.

Franz Joseph Land, to the north of Novaya Zemlya. The recent Dutch expeditions, which we have from time to time noticed, were conducted in a small vessel without steam-power, fitted out by private enterprise, and named after the ancient Dutch explorer. The satisfactory results of the voyage of the schooner Willem Barents in 1878 encouraged its promoters to dispatch a second Dutch Arctic Expedition in the summer of last year. The Willem Barents was again fitted out under the command of Lieutenant A. de Bruyne, of the Royal Netherlands Navy, under whom were Lieutenants Brockhuizen, Speelman, and Colmeyer, a surgeon, and a naturalist, while Mr. W. G. A. Grant again embarked as photographer. The vessel was provided with eighteen months' provisions, in case she should be forced to winter, and with scientific instruments of all kinds.

The objects of the expedition were again to examine the state and position of the ice in the Barents and Kara Seas, to take deep-sea soundings with serial temperatures, and thus to supply another important contribution to our knowledge of that interesting region. Magnetic and meteorological observations were also to be taken, and natural history collections to be diligently made at every opportunity.

On June 5 the Willem Barents sailed from Ymuden, and encountered heavy pack ice on July 5, in 75 deg. 35 min. N., and 26 deg. E. She then put in at Vardö, and, after a short stay, resumed her cruise in the Barents Sea. From July 13 to Aug. 5 deep-sea soundings and other scientific observations were unceasingly taken; and at the latter date the Matotschkin Shar was reached. But the Kara Sea was found to be so encumbered with heavy ice that it was impossible to penetrate further in that direction. In the Matotschkin Shar the Dutch explorers met the Ysbjorn, with Sir Henry Gore Booth and Captain Markham on board. There were hearty greetings, exchanges of information, and for the first time the flags of Holland and England floated side by side in the waters of Novaya Zemlya.

The Willem Barents then cruised northwards along the western coast of Novaya Zemlya to Cape Nassau, on which historic headland a monumental stone was successfully landed on Aug. 29. A furious gale of wind prevented a second intended landing at the Pankratoff Islands, and Captain de Bruyne then steered northwards, with the intention of examining the edge of the pack between the 50th and 60th meridians of longitude. Sailing onwards, with-



THE DUTCH ARCTIC EXPEDITION: THE SCHOONER WILLEM BARENTS SIGHTING FRANZ JOSEPH LAND, SEPT. 7, 1879.

out obstruction from ice, the Dutch explorers, at six p.m. on Sept. 7, sighted Franz Joseph Land, extending over eight points of the compass. The weather being threatening and the season far advanced, it was deemed advisable to return at once, so that no opportunity offered for landing on this interesting country; but Lieutenant Colmeyer had time to make a sketch of the coast, with its lofty hills and abrupt headlands. Thus, a small sailing-schooner succeeded in reaching those hitherto inaccessible shores, and in returning safely during the navigable season: an important achievement, which gives hope of future greater and more extensive achievements.

After experiencing very heavy gales of wind, the Willem Barents returned to Ymuden on Oct. 21, and the gallant explorers were received with enthusiastic cheers by assembled crowds of their countrymen. Both the Dutch Arctic Expeditions, that of 1878 and that of 1879, were able and resolutely conducted, and have produced valuable scientific results. They have added to our knowledge of the Arctic seas, and their success will no doubt encourage the countrymen of Barents to make further efforts in the glorious field of Arctic research.

ALMANACKS.

Within the memory of men now living, the bellman's "Copy of Verses" and Christmas Carols were not the least of the events that marked the ending of each old year; whilst the incoming of a new one was more specially signalled by the appearance of those homely-looking Almanacks that were then in vogue—Old Moore's, Poor Richard's, and Poor Robin's. Almanacks used to be cried in the streets, and they still are cried in the suburbs, as we hear most nights in this month of January—"Almanack! almanack! This year's almanack! Old Moore's almanack! Only a penny!"

A wordy war has been often waged on "Calendar" and "Almanack," some maintaining that by the use of the former word we signify the book has in it a record of events which is not found in those designated by the latter term; and this view is taken by Brady, who says, in his "Analysis of the Calendar," "the calendar, strictly speaking, refers to time in general, the almanack to only that portion of time which is comprehended in the annual revolution of the earth round the sun," the time of the year from day to day, and the changes of sun and moon. For all practical purposes, however, the names are now synonymous, as we see in dictionaries, if we refer to them, "Calendar, an almanack"—"Almanack, a calendar," and that they were so even in the time of Shakespeare we have abundant evidence. Quoting haphazard, we will give a few instances.

Thus, "Doth the moon," asks Smug, "slime that night we play our play?" To which, "A calendar, a calendar!" cries the Weaver, "Look in the almanack; find out moonshine." "Saturn and Venus this year in conjunction," remarks Prince Henry to Poins, as he looks at Falstaff; "what says the almanack to that?" "Give me a calendar," cries Richard III. "Who saw the sun to-day?" "Not I, my Lord," says Ratcliffe; to which the King replies—"Then he disdains to shine; for, by the book, he should have brav'd the east an hour ago." "Is not to-morrow, boy," asks Brutus, "the ides of March? Look in the calendar and bring me word;" while Enobarbus, commenting on Cleopatra's tears, says—"They are greater storms and tempests than almanacks can report;" and Macbeth, visited with remorse, exclaims—"Let this pernicious hour stand aye accursed in the calendar!"

A consultation of the almanack was much in vogue, for the influence of the planets was regarded; as we see, indeed, by Gloster's exclamation in "King Lear"—"These late eclipses of the sun and moon portend no good to us;" and by his son Edmund's comment upon it—"This is the excellent foppery of the world: that when we are sick in fortune—often the surfeit of our own behaviour—we make guilty of our disasters, the sun, the moon, and stars, as if we were villains of necessity, fools by heavenly compulsion, knaves, thieves, and treachers by spherical predominance"—Othello, too, cries out, after killing Desdemona, "O insupportable! O heavy hour! Methinks it should be now a huge eclipse of sun and moon;" and Iago observes, "as if some planet had outwitted men." "How now, brother Edmund," asks Edgur, "what serious contemplation are you in?" "I am thinking," is the reply, "brother, of a prediction I read this other day, what should follow those eclipses;" and this same idea of things terrestrial being greatly affected by things celestial, is still persistent in most rural districts, and hence their faith in those almanacks which contain predictions, however they may be qualified by "on or about."

Southey, recounting his experience at school, wrote thus of the coming Christmas:—"When at morn I took my wooden kalendar, and, counting up once more its often-told account, smoothed off each day, with more delight, the daily notch." The idea of this custom, which is still followed in some country schools, would seem to have been borrowed from our Saxon ancestors, "who," says Vertesgan, "used to engrave on certain squared sticks the courses of the moones of the whole year; and such a carved stick they called an *al-mont-aught*, and hence is derived the name of almanack;" and to those carved sticks we no doubt owe the clog almanack of more modern days, which Dr. Plot described as a square stick eight inches long, with notches and marks upon it. At Pompeii, it would appear, from remains found there, that the material used was marble, the days and the months being engraved on each side of a short square block. "Calendair" takes its name from a custom of old Rome—the affixing of a placard in a public place at stated intervals, to tell of the coming festivals; and as those placards were called *Fasti Calendares*—from *Kalendae* or *Kalends*, the first day of the month—books referring to such days came in time to be styled "Calendars." Illuminated calendars were, as we know, prefixed to Romish missals, and written almanacks date from an early period, though they were not common till the fifteenth century. There is one in the library at Lambeth Palace, dated 1460, and another of 1482 at the University of Cambridge.

Of printed almanacks, the first that appeared in Europe was the *Kalendarium Novum* by Rigiomontanus, in 1475, which, published in Hungary, had a large circulation; and the first that was printed in England was the *Shepherd's Kalendar*, by Richard Pynson, in 1497, which had been translated from the French; and by the middle of the sixteenth century, almanacks and calendars became general in England, and "Evil Days" were added—each "Dies Mala;" the "Infortunate Times to Be and Sell, take Medicine, Sow, Plant, and Journey," as may be seen in some almanacks. "Imprynted at London by John Daye," and also in the *Pognostication of Leonard Digges* in 1553. Decker, in his *Rew's Almanack* for 1609, ridiculed this sort of thing, and Allstet took up the same vein in 1624. In France almanacks containing prophecies were forbidden by Henry III., but in England James I. not only countenanced them, but granted a monopoly of their publication to the two Universities, and the Stationers' Company; and such books were sought for during the Civil Wars, when Lilly, Norman, Winder, Dee, Booker,

Kelly, and Evans, supplied the wares thus wanted, of which the *Merlinus Anglicus* of William Lilly—who is alluded to as Sidrophel in Butler's *Hudibras*—was most renowned; and to these succeeded others, as Cookson, Salmon, Sudbury, Coley, and Andrews; and, lastly, Tanner, whose book was printed in 1656. Then came *Poor Robin's*, in 1661—the year that Evelyn issued his *Kalendarium Hortense*—which, by its humour and absurdities, retained its hold on the public until 1828. Next, Partridge led the way; and, thanks to being written about by Pope and Swift, his own and Sudbury's almanack had the sway till the *Vox Stellarum* came, by Francis Moore, who, born at Bridgnorth, was a quack at Westminster. This was in 1698, and at his death it was continued by Andrews; and as "Old Moore's" almanack it has still a sale. In the height of its popularity it was, however, very closely run by "Poor Richard's," which Franklin issued in 1733, and embodied its quaint sayings in the "Way to Wealth." Zadkiel followed him, with some minor prophets; and then came Murphy with his *Weather Almanack* in 1838, to gain by his prediction of the coldest day both fame and fortune.

We now have almanacks for every class, and each class is well represented; the *Illustrated London Almanack* taking rank among the very foremost for general information and artistic worth combined.

NEW BOOKS.

What in the world has he to do in this galley is the question likely to occur to most persons upon seeing *Hawthorne*, by Henry James, jun. (Macmillan and Co.), included among Mr. John Morley's "English Men of Letters," and the answer which will most readily suggest itself will be—he was put into this galley because of the popularity acquired by the gentleman who has undertaken to float him, or, in other words, to edit him. And it must be acknowledged that the combination of Nathaniel Hawthorne and Henry James, jun., has a very captivating appearance. If, however, the thin end of the wedge be admitted, if Hawthorne is to be counted as an English writer, there will soon be made a large hole through which a multitude of American authors will be forced upon us in endless succession. The more the merrier, someone may say; and in the present instance, at any rate, nobody is likely to regret the admission. Not that there is much which is interesting or remarkable, from the biographical point of view, in this monograph devoted to Nathaniel Hawthorne; indeed, it is doubtful whether a more uneventful life was ever led by any man of letters; but it is well worth while to read the editor's critical estimate of Hawthorne's literary productions and analytical appreciation of Hawthorne's mental and moral characteristics. Nathaniel Hawthorne was born on a day memorable in the annals of the United States, on July 4, 1804; and he died on May 18, 1864. Salem, Massachusetts, was the place of his birth; Plymouth, "one of the stations of approach to the beautiful mountain scenery of New Hampshire," of his death; Concord, near Boston, of his burial. Apart from his fame as an author, a fame extending over the civilised world, he had scarcely any existence of a public kind, unless the friendship between him and President Pierce and his few years' consulate in England be considered to have impressed some slight stamp of publicity upon him. He was about forty-five when he wrote "The Scarlet Letter," which will probably be always regarded as his masterpiece. If we add to that "The House of the Seven Gables," and two other novels, "The Blithedale Romance," and "Transformation," a story which, it is truly observed, "struggles and wanders, is dropped and taken up again, and towards the close lapses into an almost fatal vagueness," we have mentioned the whole of the works upon which his reputation, as a man of genius, may be said to rest. They are few, no doubt, compared with the legacies left to the world by other men of letters; but they are very likely quite sufficient to justify the assertion that Hawthorne "is the writer to whom his countrymen most confidently point when they wish to make a claim to have enriched the mother tongue, and, judging from present appearances, he will long occupy this honourable position." His literary career is not encouraging for those who are ambitious of distinction at an early age, but it may save from despair the honest, persevering worker who finds himself labouring in vain, so far as celebrity and emoluments go, when he is nearer his ninth than his eighth lustrum.

Smart dialogue, carefully elaborated is the distinguishing characteristic of *Confidence*, by Henry James, jun. (Chatto and Windus), two volumes of easy reading, containing a story of slight texture and of small interest. The personages are chiefly of Transatlantic nationality, belonging to the class of travelling Americans; and the author's main object, one would imagine, is to satirise both sexes. Such eccentric beings, with such strange ways, especially as regards love-making and marrying, must be regarded as very exceptional phenomena. With them is appropriately associated a silly Englishman, who is a member of a noble family and a military officer, a Hercules physically, a good-for-naught morally, an idiot mentally, a bore socially, a dangler professionally, a pauper pecuniarily. He is, of course, a caricature; and it is to be hoped that a similar remark applies to most of the other personages, both women and men. Else travelling Americans must be very disagreeable specimens of humanity—the men with the manners and ideas of bagmen, and the women with the airs and behaviour of pretty dancing-girls. There is something quite shocking to an ordinary English reader's notions of delicacy in the brutal frankness with which the hero talks to the heroine about his compunction at preventing her from selling herself to a higher bidder, and in the cool fashion in which the man of many thousands is supposed throughout the whole narrative to have the command of the marriage market. It is true that the extremely unconventional heroine turns out in the end to be at heart the truest, purest, and best of women; but the wonder is all the greater that, with her innate nobility of feeling, she should have been inspired with any sentiment but disgust towards the man who could listen for a moment to the suggestion that he should watch her and investigate her, as it were, to see if she be worthy of having the handkerchief thrown to her by his friend the man of many thousands. And hereupon another question arises. Is it not making rather too large a demand upon the readers' credulity that they should be called upon to believe it possible for one young man in search of a wife to set another, of the same age and position, and of greater gifts in all but money, the task of testing a certain lovely young woman's conjugal promise? The thing will seem to most minds too preposterous for a tale of real life, however admissible it might be in a professed comedy, or, for that matter, in a romantic tragedy. Nevertheless, the volumes are pleasant enough to read; there are some excellent scenes excellently worked out; and, at the conclusion, a matrimonial breach is healed in as satisfactory a manner as is compatible with the employment of extraordinary means.

Mr. W. Gardiner, many years deputy-secretary, has been appointed secretary of the Crystal Palace Company.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

At the weekly meeting of the London School Board on Wednesday the question of paying a salary to the chairman, urged by an influential deputation, was discussed, and eventually a resolution was passed declaring that it is inexpedient at the present time to entertain the prayer of the memorial.

In compliance with an invitation from the National Thrift Society, a large number of ladies and gentlemen assembled at the Mansion House on Tuesday. Upon the motion of Cardinal Manning, who said they had not received sufficient information as to the nature and organisation of the Thrift Society, the meeting, which was somewhat uproarious, was adjourned.

The annual dinner in aid of the funds of the French Hospital and Dispensary will be held to-day (Saturday) at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, under the patronage of the French Ambassador, who has consented to take the chair. His Excellency will be supported by the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, and several noblemen and gentlemen who feel an interest in this institution.

An address explaining the principles of a new National Union Benefit Society, which is proposed to be established on the basis of the Strand Friendly Society, but without any political bias, was delivered at Guildhall Tavern on Monday by Mr. H. F. A. Davis, in the presence of a number of gentlemen interested in the subject. Mr. T. Hughes, Q.C., presided, and expressed his hope that the contemplated society would not have a political character.

Last week 2644 births and 1900 deaths were registered in London. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 38 below, whereas the deaths exceeded by 139 the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The deaths included 3 from smallpox, 30 from measles, 83 from scarlet fever, 13 from diphtheria, 140 from whooping-cough, 11 from different forms of fever, and 14 from diarrhoea. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 455 and 512 in the two preceding weeks, further rose, under the influence of the lower temperature, to 559 last week, and exceeded the corrected weekly average by 104; of these 372 resulted from bronchitis, and 120 from pneumonia. Different forms of violence caused 61 deaths.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

BENTLEY AND SON:
Christy Carew. A Novel. By the Author of "Hogan, M.P., &c." 3 vols.
BLACKWOOD AND CO.:
My Wanderings in Persia. By T. S. Anderson. With Illustrations and a Map.

DAVID BOGUE:

Who are the Irish? By James Bonwick.

CATLOW, LEICESTER:

Nightwinds and other Poems and Songs. By E. W. Spawton.

CHATTO AND WINDUS:

Moths. A Novel. By Ouida. 3 vols.

Jeff Briggs's Love Story and other Sketches. By Bret Harte.

DAVID DOUGLAS, EDINBURGH:

Four Months in a Sneak-Box. A Boat Voyage of 2600 Miles down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers and along the Gulf of Mexico. By Nathaniel H. Bishop.

DE LA RUE AND CO.:

Strange Stories from a Chinese Studio. Translated and Annotated by Herbert A. Giles. 2 vols.

SAMUEL FRENCH:

The Extravaganzas of J. R. Planche, Esq. (*Somerset Herald*), 1825–1871. Edited by T. F. Dillon Croker and Stephen Tucker (Rouge Croix). Testimonial Edition. 2 vols.

"FCN" OFFICE:

The British Tradesman, and other Sketches, including the Complete Builder. By J. F. Sullivan. Engraved by Dalziel Brothers.

HEYWOOD:

Lays and Legends of Cheshire; with other Poems and Ballads. By John Leigh.

HURST AND BLACKETT:

Conversations with Distinguished Persons during the Second Empire, from 1859 to 1863. By the late Nassau William Senior. Edited by his Daughter, M. C. M. Simpson. 2 vols.

MACMILLAN AND CO.:

The Statesman's Year-Book: Statistical and Historical Annual of the States of the Civilised World, for 1880. By Frederick Martin.

Select Epigrams from Martial for English Readers. Translated by W. T. Webb.

MARCUS WAUD AND CO.:

Adventures in Many Lands. By Parker Gillmore (*Ubique*); with Illustrations by Sidney P. Hall.

J. AND R. MAXWELL:

The Story of Barbara: her Splendid Misery and her Gilded Cage. A Novel. By the Author of "Lady Audley's Secret." 3 vols.

KEGAN PAUL AND CO.:

Disguises. A Drama. By Augusta Webster.

LONGMANS AND CO.:

Thom's Irish Almanack and Official Directory of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for 1880.

CLEMENT SADLER PALMER:

Lebanon Leaves: Metrical Soliloquies on Passages of Holy Scripture for Every Day in the Year. By Ebenezer Palmer. Second Edition.

Tendrils in Verse. By Ebenezer Palmer. Third Edition.

REEVES:

Beethoven Depicted by his Contemporaries. By Ludwig Nohl. Translated from the German by Emily Hill.

SAMPSON LOW AND CO.:

Memoirs of Madame de Rémusat. 1802–1808. Published by her grandson, M. Paul de Rémusat. Translated by Mrs. Caswell Hoy and Mr. John Little. 2 vols. Vol. I.

Handbook of Embroidery. By L. Higgin. Edited by Lady Marian Alford.

A Forbidden Land: Voyages to the Corea. With an Account of its Geography, History, Products, and Commercial Capabilities. By Ernest Oppert. With Charts and Twenty-one Illustrations.

SIMPSON, MARSHALL, AND CO.:

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STEVENS AND SONS:

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THE OLD MAID.

About a quarter of a century ago, at a picturesque postern-gate, hard by an old manor-house in Berkshire, there stood a soldier and a lady. It was a pleasant summer evening, and the rooks who inhabited the tall trees overhead seemed to be enjoying themselves, if it were fair to judge of their feelings by the vivacity of their discourse. A few belated birds who had been for news or pleasure to other rookeries winged their flight straight homewards, and the fragrance of the fields and gardens around rose like a prayer of thanksgiving skyward. It was a pretty sylvan scene in the heart of England, and the figures which filled the foreground were as pleasingly English in their characteristics as the landscape. The lady was a fair, graceful girl, with light golden hair and frank blue eyes. Her merry lips were as red as cherries, her teeth as white as milk; her cheeks broke into dimples when she laughed, and she laughed very often. She had the marvellous complexion of our Island beauties, and the single word that would have described her best was "loveliness." She had not the haughty, passionate glance of the Italian women, nor the captivating brilliancy of the French. She was a homebred English girl of the best kind, who could make admirable puddings, and take care that her house was always bright and wholesome. She was made to be the providence of a good man's dwelling, and to rear an indefinite number of sturdy children with a healthy taste for bread-and-butter. The young man beside her was, in his way, almost an equally fine specimen of the produce of the Midland Counties. He was six feet high, and could jump over a five-barred gate standing. He was fresh from Eton, and had just got a commission in a light cavalry regiment, which he honestly thought was the finest thing in the world; or, as he himself would have expressed it, "the best thing out by many chalks."

Millicent—which was the lady's name—and he, whose name was Oswald, were cousins, and both sprung from warm county families of good estate. They were very fond of each other, as cousins generally are when both attractive and much thrown together; so that there was no valid reason why they should not have made a match of it at once and lived happily ever afterwards. They certainly would have done so if a plentiful portion of good sense and a capital social position can content good-humoured young people who are not troubled by any silly sort of ambition. But there is always something in the way of a rational plan; and old Sir Toby Harbottle, who had been a member of Boodle's and had read Lord Chesterfield's letters, got it into his eminently respectable head that his son should see the world before he settled down to his serious duties as a Master of Foxhounds.

In this manner it came about, step by step, that Oswald was gazetted to a cornetcy and shortly afterwards ordered away with his regiment on active military service. It was the Crimean War time, when England had drifted into a riot with Russia, and Russia had stumbled into a rumpus with England, for some purpose, if there were a purpose, which none of the best-informed people on either side could understand. Indeed, the Czar, who was a loyal high-pacing sort of Monarch, far above any petty deceit or mystification, passed much of his time in writing private letters to the amiable and excellent nobleman who was first Minister of the British Crown to inquire what it was all about; and the well-meaning Premier was to the full as urgent in putting a similar question to the Czar. But the admirals, generals, and ambassadors hastened to loggerheads in spite of them, and went at each other hammer and tongs, killing off their troops and blowing up their ships in such a spirited manner that they constantly had to send for reinforcements, till the entire strength of both these gallant and highly civilised countries were engaged in a dispute which was a profound mystery to everybody. However, if such slight mistakes were not constantly happening between brave and patriotic countries, life would be much duller than it is. There would be no eminent loan and army contractors, no knightly



MISS TABITHA MONCKTON.



gun-makers, no Parliamentary opposition worth mentioning, and, worst of all, no special war correspondents and thrilling narratives of sieges and battles. Let us be thankful for small mercies.

Of course, Oswald Harbottle, who was as fine a young fellow as ever stepped, entered warmly into the cause of his native land, and was all agog to fight the Russians. Having been properly brought up in every respect, and being a true-born Briton with no new-fangled notions about him, he rightly thought that it would illustrate his family name not a little if he could unhorse and put to death some half-a-score of Russians as valiant as himself. The fact that he had no acquaintance whatever with the Muscovites, nor they with him, and that he should send them headlong into the next world, for motives of which he knew nothing, or for no motive at all, never entered into his well-taught mind, and his general state of uncertainty rather added to the zest of the thing. For this brave Lieutenant of horse was so truly proud of his uniform, and his mess, and his long sword, saddle, bridle, with the rest of his warlike accoutrements, that his dearest wish in life just now was to charge full tilt at anything or anybody which would give him an opportunity of proving his high mettle.

Millicent was not quite so enthusiastic on the subject of charging strange Russians, who she had heard were terrible creatures on wild horses, fed with tallow, and urged to desperate combat by the knout. But she would not have held her tall cousin back from that mysterious war if she could have done so, and felt cordially with her countrymen and country-women. She was as full of martial fire and patriotism as though she had understood the whole quarrel, and would have been generously indignant with anyone who had pretended to assert that she did not. Besides, she had a noble spirit, being descended from a long race of ladies and cavaliers, and she would have been ashamed of a lover who tarried by her side while the flower of English manhood was in arms. A few words under the beech-tree where they had first plighted their troth, a broken sixpence halved between them, a walk hand-in-hand over the lawn, and their parting was well-nigh done. Perhaps the girl's lips trembled a little, and there was a flutter at her heart when her hero rode away that night, and she heard the sound of his horse's hoofs die on the bridle-path which led to Sir Toby's place a mile off; but she walked to her own chamber with a steady step, and slept soundly, dreaming that her lover had come back to her safe, and with honour.

They never saw each other but once again. It was when the two families journeyed to the seaport whence the transport was to carry Oswald Harbottle and his regiment to the East. They went on board with him, unwilling to take a final leave till the last moment; and when at length the big ship lit her fires and prepared to raise her anchor, they ordered their boat to lay on her oars, and waved their handkerchiefs to the handsome lad who was so full of hope, and strength, and promise. So they waited till the paddle-wheels of the transport struck the water with a loud thud, and they heard his last cheerful "Good-by," while the band upon deck clashed out in brazen tones "The girl I left behind me."

Sweet, sweet Millicent never saw her true lover after that. On the historic day of Balaclava, in the front of the fight, with his sword in his hand, he went down; and evermore her heart bled inwardly. She seldom spoke of him after the first burst of uncontrollable anguish was over; but she cherished a steadfast belief that by doing always well while she remained here she would be more certain to win up to him. She did not fall ill or lose a serene comeliness which had replaced her beauty and her gaiety, but she passed rapidly into another age, as though the mainspring of her existence was in some way broken. From the quiet corner of her little world, she saw the happiness of others and was glad at it. She was kind and tender to all living creatures; but did not like to speak of herself, as though the past were too sacred to be mentioned, save in her own prayers. All the country side came to love her, for she who had no children was as a mother to all children; and it appeared as though her loneliness made her akin to every one who was afflicted. She was as the angel of the desolate. In the sick-room her voice was as soft music, soothing and melodious. Her step, her dress, were silent harmony. Her mere presence calmed and cheered and comforted. Death had no terrors for her. When it came, she believed that she would rejoin her hero in a brighter world than this; so she was often in the chamber of suffering when others shrank from it. But she seemed to bear a charmed life, and to go about with a strange radiance on her face at times, as though she had caught a ray of that divine light which comes through the half open gates of heaven, when a soul has entered there. Rough men found their eyes grow moist when they thought of what she had done for their children, their sisters, or their wives. They would have defended her from evil or malice with their lives. One—it was the Colonel of Oswald's regiment, who brought her back the half of that broken sixpence—tried to win her from her virgin widowhood, and she made a friend of him also, though he left her with so pale a face.

Her task was higher than that of a nun's, or she might perhaps have joined some Catholic community, and taken the veil—for she heeded little the outward forms of worship; but she liked to minister to the sorrows she understood best, and to serve her own class and people. When Basil Mostyn, who was in the Foreign Office, got into some scrape, it was Millicent who got him out of it, coming quietly to him in his trouble and leaving what she had behind her. It was Millicent again who sat up night after night reading law with her younger brother till he passed his examination for the Bar. Sweet, sweet Millicent. Even in the perfect arch of her finely-formed head there was indicated such wondrous courage and resolution that it might have been easy from the first to foretell how she would act, and to divine that the laughing girl would have, if needs were, the spirit of a heroine, or a martyr.

There is one especial crook in Miss Millicent's lot, which is half ludicrous and half melancholy. Considering that she has been long ago popularly set down for an old maid, other old maids of a very different description claim fellowship with her as one of their own order. It would be unkind to tell, for instance, all she endures from Miss Tabitha Monckton, a single lady who lives in her neighbourhood, and is constantly coming to see her with three dogs, an unmanageable umbrella, and a large parcel of scandal. Miss Monckton resembles the typical old maid in whom the world believes, and who is indeed most frequently met with in society; for popular notions of things and people are seldom altogether wrong. There is something contrary and unsympathetic in her. She has a mind made up of sharp angles which fit into nobody else's ideas. She has a peculiar religion, which is incomprehensible to everybody. She is fidgety, crotchety, and painfully disagreeable. She finds out sore places by an instinct naturally discourteous, and pokes her finger remorselessly into the tenderest parts of them. She has a collection of disastrous omens, and sees coffins even in a sparkling fire, rather than purses, as the kindly do. She makes pickles of her thoughts instead of preserves. She has crazes about the time, and about the moon. She takes her meals not only at specified hours but at particular minutes, and stands

for ever so long stock still at a corner of a street turning her gold and curtseying on a fine night. She is very mysterious too, and walks precisely nine times round her dressing-room table every morning directly she gets up, for no reason that the world knows of, but, in truth, because she has a firm faith in odd numbers, and considers the number nine as especially fortunate because it is composed of three times three—a cabalistic cipher with which she became acquainted through a gipsy in her youth. Her mental furniture is an absurd pernicious jumble of odds and ends, for she has no intellectual digestion of what she reads, which is mostly silly; and she gossips perpetually, so that she seems filled with unprofitable talk and speeches wherewith she can do no good. Still Tabitha and her neighbour are very old acquaintances, so that Millicent cannot show her a cold shoulder; and besides, she remembers when Tabitha was the belle of the race ball. Somehow or other, Tabitha did not get married—perhaps she flirted too indiscriminately; perhaps she did not flirt enough, which is still more likely, for bumpkin squires need some encouragement. Perhaps there was a difficulty about settlements, for she was very useful to an invalid aunt, who did not like to part with her, yet who bought a life annuity which died with herself, so that Tabitha had a lean fortune. Now she is disappointed and soured. She wears yellow ribbons, and bonnets which are quite distressing to Millicent, whose head-gear comes four times a year from Madame Virot in a becoming manner. Miss Monckton grew almost ferocious after forty-five, when her last castle in the air faded into nothingness. She had captivated a widower with five daughters, and had put all the heart she had left into that venture. She would have made him a blameless wife, and would have been capable of any sacrifice for the sake of his children. But she could not shake the widower till he asked her to become his wife; and so, after mooning about for some time in an irresolute way, he married his cook. Thenceforth she had no companions but her dogs, whom she kissed and scolded by turns. When past all hope of happiness, and brooding over her wasted life, she inherited a large property; but it only made her more bitter with the world. She made no change in her way of living, and torments her kinsfolk, as she herself was once tormented, by visions of legacies she will never leave them. She comes twice or thrice a week from her cold hearth to pour all these things in a continuous stream before her gentle, high-souled neighbour, and not a reputation in the county is safe from her acid and vengeful tongue.

There is another old maid, too, who visits Millicent, and makes herself welcome enough, though there can be no more sympathy between them than between a Sister of Mercy and a comic singer. She is a Miss Mayfield, and a very comfortable body indeed. An eccentric relative who was very fond of her left her a considerable income on condition that she should remain single, and she made no sort of objection to the condition. Her friends even said that she rather enjoyed it, though perhaps a poor gentleman who died shortly before she came into her fortune could have told a different story, and she would have cheerfully given it up for his sake. Now she lives for herself only. She has a capital house in that roomy quarter of London which was built in the reign of Queen Anne, and is the most commodious of all. Her dinners in the season are all distinct successes, and the pleasantest people to be found are invited to eat them. Whatever is new, whatever is pretty is certain to be met with at her amusing parties. She is a capital match-maker, having given up all pretensions for herself, and more proposals are made in her conservatory than anywhere else within the bounds of good society. She has never been able to coax Millicent to dine with her on one of her grand field-days for court and city; but she is so genial and nice, so helpful and sympathetic, that the two ladies who played as children together among the Berkshire woods, sometimes go out shopping in each other's company; and whenever sweet Millicent is heard to laugh, one may be sure that Miss Mayfield is with her.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

The annual prize distribution of the 20th Middlesex took place on the 23rd inst., in the large meeting-room of the London and North-Western Railway Company at Euston Station. Colonel Browne, the commanding officer of the regiment, in opening the proceedings, said that they were about the same strength as in the preceding three years. They had now a body of men who could be relied on, all those who were useless having been struck off; and he could thus depend upon always getting a muster of 400 or 500 for battalion drill out of the 600 enrolled. The gallant Colonel touched upon the satisfactory nature of the work of last year, and especially upon the muster at inspection, on which occasion they were reported upon in a highly favourable manner. The prizes were presented to the winners by Colonel Bigge, late Commandant of the 20th; the chief recipients being Lance-Sergeant Merrell, Lance-Corporal Dukes, Corporal Thackray, Sergeant G. B. Gray (best shot of the battalion), Lance-Corporal Crosier, Colour-Sergeant Morgan, Private Quar, Sergeant C. Bannister, Colour-Sergeant Edwards, Colour-Sergeant Griffiths, Bugler Lidbetter, and Private Myers. After the ceremony the usual ball took place in the grand hall of the station, which had been elegantly decorated.

The annual dinner of the 18th Kent was held at Bromley last week, in the drill-hall of the corps. The chair was taken by Lieutenant Satterthwaite (who has just been appointed to the command), supported by Major Satterthwaite, Mr. Scott, and others. In responding to the toast of the evening, "Success to the 18th Kent," the chairman stated that they last year returned their maximum number of efficient (159), and that they were unable to enrol any recruits, of which there were several in waiting, until the War Office gave them permission to increase their strength. During the evening a Martini-Henry rifle was presented as a testimonial from last year's recruits to Sergeant Instructor Morgan, who joined the corps from the 49th Middlesex twelve months since.

The annual distribution of prizes and regimental ball of the 19th Middlesex will be held this (Saturday) evening, at the Freemasons' Hall.

The annual regimental dinner of the Queen's (Westminster) will take place at the Criterion on Saturday, Feb. 14. After the distribution of prizes the Duke of Westminster will probably take the chair, supported by the Secretary of State for War, the First Lord of the Admiralty, Colonel Sir Charles Russell, V.C., M.P., General Lord Chelmsford, Mr. Justice Denman, and other distinguished guests.

The Secretary of State for War has approved of the militia being called up this year for training for twenty-seven days, and the Yeomanry Cavalry for seven days.

A meeting of the subscribers to the City of Glasgow Bank Relief Fund was held yesterday week, at which it was reported that the subscriptions amounted to £390,000, of which two thirds had been paid. There were 1600 shareholders, of whom 711 applied for relief. The committee had voted £9000 in annuities, £93,000 in donations, and £90,000 in loans.

OLD MASTERS AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

THIRD AND CONCLUDING NOTICE.

The examples of our own deceased British Masters in this collection, though less instructive in an artistic sense than the works of the great foreign schools, possess a more intimate and general interest. We shall not meet with the religious fervour of the fifteenth century, nor with an exact counterpart (even in portraiture), to the noble and dignified elevation, the quasi-classical beauty, and the grand and generous decoration of the Italian *cinque cento*, nor with anything so perfect, within, however, very narrow limits, as the Dutch cabinet painting. Nevertheless, we shall find a wide variety of merit, and some high excellence; much that is honest and true, and many a charm and grace won directly from nature, which the teaching of all the schools might fail to reach.

It is to be regretted that there is nothing by Hogarth of more importance than the small "conversation piece" of the "Fountaine Family" (46). Another small picture of his friend "Garrick in the Green Room" (43) of Drury-Lane Theatre during the rehearsal of a play before a select audience is assuredly not by Hogarth, nor can we discover therein his portrait mentioned in the catalogue. An exceedingly painstaking and solid little "View on the Thames" (6) at old Montague House, with the old water-tower that stood at the bottom of Buckingham-street, is of interest, not only topographically and on account of its merit, but as the work of Samuel Scott, one of the four boon companions who with Hogarth made the five days' "peregrination" about Chatham and Rochester, the journal of which, illustrated by Hogarth and Scott, was read at the Bedford Arms Club, and is now in the British Museum. Another curious town view of this time, "Old Covent Garden" (45), by Joseph Francis Nollekens, father of the sculptor, has much humour in the well-painted figures, which include a street preacher at the column with sun-dial and gilt ball, serving for a market cross (taken down in 1790), a parson heedlessly passing a beggar, a woman of fashion (said to be Lady Archer), a porter with a lofty pile of baskets, the fall of which amuses the crowd; groups of market Amazons, and others.

In 1754 Reynolds set up his easel in London, fired with emulation of the Old Masters, whose works he had studied in making the "grand tour," but not prepared as a draughtsman of "the figure" by that thorough training, the lack of which he always deplored. Very shortly after he probably painted the whole-length (131) of Mrs. Riddell, née Widdrington—most likely on her marriage. Dressed in white and holding a basket of flowers, she is walking among trees, the figure being placed much out of the centre of the canvas. Owing to Sir Joshua's unfortunate early practice of employing fugitive transparent colours, the carnations have quite disappeared, leaving nothing but the greenish-grey under-painting; probably also much of the glazing of the background has fled. The picture is, consequently, ghostly and *fade* in the extreme. Notwithstanding, the preparatory work in the face is far more complete than the modelling of his later time, and much greater care is expended on the dress than when he trusted to a "drapery man." Nor is it difficult to understand, even without trying to realise what the colouring of the picture was in its pristine condition, how great was the innovation on contemporary portraiture of the freedom and grace, the breadth and dignity of style herein displayed. To nearly as early a time belong the half-lengths of Mr. William Plumer (94) and of the first Earl of Harcourt (146), the governor of the Prince of Wales, afterwards George III., and whose strict attention to etiquette furnished amusement to Horace Walpole. Both pictures have faded, but otherwise are in good preservation. An interval of several years must be placed between these and the much-damaged as well as altered portrait, seated and looking up, of the Countess Waldegrave (14), the handsome second natural daughter of Sir Edward Walpole, whose subsequent marriage with the Duke of Gloucester led to the Royal Marriage Act, which so much limited the matrimonial liberty of our Royal family. She was painted more than once again by Reynolds.

Shortly after the probable date of this picture and to the period *circa* 1765-6, when the artist was past forty, belong the following important series of works:—The powerful and dignified seated portrait (13) of Charles Pratt in his robes as a Lord Chief Justice, painted the year when he gave judgment pronouncing the general warrant of Lord Halifax that had committed Wilkes to the Tower to be illegal and void, and in which he was created Baron Camden, to be followed by the earldom; the sombre three-quarter length of the swarthy Colonel Barré (17), the fierce Opposition orator, and supporter of Lord Shelburne, his nose disfigured by the bullet received while serving with Wolfe at Quebec, and which, says Walpole, "lodged loosely in his cheek and gave a savage glare to one eye." He was painted again by Reynolds in the famous Ashburnham picture with Shelburne and Dunning. The bust portraits of the Right Hon. Charles Townsend (136), the "weathercock" Minister, who died in 1767, the year after he was appointed Chancellor of the Exchequer; and George Augustus Selwyn (139), whose face is serious and reflective, like those of several other famous wits; and the full-length of the sturdy and benevolent Sir Walter Calverley Blackett (123), seven times member for Newcastle, firmly planted on his solid, parted legs, looking the spectator frankly and pleasantly in the face—a highly characteristic portrait, but somewhat dry, dull, and faded in colour. Another decade, distinctly visible in the assured facility of the workmanship, is marked by the Campbell portraits, brother and sister—John, afterwards created Baron Cawdor (144), painted in 1778, and Miss Sarah Campbell (142), the former a youthful, animated figure, with arm extended, urging his retriever to gambol; the latter, a good-looking young lady in a pink dress and white scarf embroidered with gold, and with the towering head-dress of the time. The noble but over-cleaned portrait of the grave and handsome Sir John Honeywood we conclude to have been painted in 1781, the year of Sir John's death, and not a posthumous work, as it would have been were we to accept the date given in the catalogue—1784. The whole-length of Lady Elizabeth Compton (135) should probably be assigned to the next year—the year of her marriage with Lord George Cavendish. This is altogether the finest female portrait by Sir Joshua in the exhibition. He never painted anything sweeter than the engaging, almost girlish, smile that plays about eyes and mouth. She stands full front and face to the spectator, and her long white robe, though very slight in execution, helps the impression of monumental oneness and dignity. Another sweet portrait of a pretty woman, but wearing the monstrous hat of the period, is that of Miss Frances Molesworth (36), who in 1785 married the eldest son of the Lord Camden whose portrait we have already noticed. The last example of Reynolds here—painted in 1789 at the age of sixty-six, the year his sight began to fail him, and only three years before his death—is the portrait of his little grand-niece Theophila Gwatkin, daughter of his favourite "Offy," better known by the title of the prints after it as "Simplicity," the last engraving being the beautiful mezzotint by Mr. Samuel Cousins. The charming little child sits on the ground as only children can sit, her rosy hands placed in her lap holding flowers, the head turned to our left in profile.

Seldom has a collection of the master's works been brought together so representative of all the successive phases of his art and so instructive if studied in the chronological order in which we have arranged them. In one respect there is progress from first to last. Constantly Reynolds is more and more felicitous in seizing some fleeting expression, some appropriate gesture or attitude; and perhaps no master that ever lived was so happy in this respect. Constantly these expressions and gestures characteristic of the individual or of the type or class to which he or she belongs are more and more emphasised; and everything else more and more subordinated and generalised—in accordance with the theory of Sir Joshua's "Discourses," the growing slightness and haste being also referable to the pressure of the demands upon him. Gradually he resorts to a method of blocking out the features, and after indicating with more or less care the principal markings of eyes and mouth, and the cast shadow under the nose, pays little heed of further details. The consequence is that concurrently with the increasing attainment of some rare and essential qualities there is an increasing absence of others, even more essential to a complete record of the individuality, till at length the portraits acquire a family likeness; they are—we had almost said—Reynoldses first and somebody else after. It is almost precisely the reverse of this in the works of Holbein—which are hung so conveniently near for instructive comparison. The great German master paid little attention to transient accidental and pleasing expressions and personal gesture, and to this, with his exact execution, are due what is popularly called the "stiffness" of his works. But the settled expression he rendered tells the story of the whole life, and so perfect and complete is his characterisation of the individual, that you can never forget that individuality, and never confound it with another that you have ever seen or will see. For historical value there can be no comparison between the portraits of the two masters. And Sir Joshua's manner is a bad precedent for the young student not endowed with his peculiar faculty, and to imitation of that manner may be attributed the unsatisfactory character of much English portraiture down to our own day.

Gainsborough is another painter frequently slight and hasty, often even slighter than Reynolds, much of his work being in the nature of a sketch; and a sketch which does not, as in Reynolds's more scholarly method, render so characteristic a generalisation of the thing indicated, but substitutes, in parts at least, a mass of conventional brushwork as a sign or symbol, the artist being content if that mass is of similar value, and bears an aggregate resemblance to the mass intended in nature. Nevertheless, Gainsborough had, we think, a keener eye for character in the face than Sir Joshua evinced, at least in his later works, and we often retain a more distinct, haunting recollection of the individual depicted from his hand. For instance, we remember no portrait by Reynolds so strikingly rich in character and expression as the head here of Mr. Firman (148)—expression of the humorous sort which influences one side of the face mainly, as justly observed by Sir Charles Bell. Look, too, at the artist's portrait of himself (143), and think of the more effective but less singularly personal presentations of the P.R.A. by himself in the Academy collection at Florence and elsewhere. The full-length group, again, of his daughters (138), Mary and "Peggy"—how like they must be!—how like the former is to her father! There is character, too, with all its slightness, in the portrait of Lord Clare (10). But Gainsborough's claim to be regarded as a master does not chiefly rest on his power of individualisation—his male portraits are, indeed, in general treatment less masculine than those of Reynolds—but, analogously with that of his great rival, is primarily to be founded on a happy peculiar idiosyncrasy: a delicate sense of refinement and beauty which gives that nameless, tender, airy charm to his portraits of women. There is not a quite first-rate example here, but the full-length of the lovely dark-eyed Mrs. Lowndes-Stone (141), with her arch smile, will bear out our observation. The rich but not solid full-length of Lord Bernard Edward Howard, afterwards twelfth Duke of Norfolk (132), is a much later work than any of the preceding, and must, since it represents a man of over twenty, belong to one of the very latest years of the artist's life, seeing that this Lord Howard was born in 1765. The figure, with legs a-straddle, is rather attitudinising, the expression pretentious, and with these peculiarities the fancy black dress adds a theatrical air to the whole. The artist's emulation of Vandyke—carried even to the adoption of his costume, as in the "Blue Boy"—is here manifest. "We are all going to heaven," said Gainsborough on his death-bed reconciliation to Reynolds, "and Vandyke will be of the company." The powers of this fascinating painter in landscape are advantageously displayed in two of his best works, lent by Sir Dudley Majoribanks—the wooded "Landscape with Cattle and Figures" (137) and "The Harvest Waggon" (140), the latter painted for his friend Wiltshire, the Bath carrier, who had given him one of the horses introduced in this picture, and by whom he used to send his paintings to London. In these works the detail of nature is but hinted, yet—especially in the former—how artistic the general impression, how splendid the colour and tone, with what feeling are the figures touched in! But, after all, such generic impression, though essential to convey, is but limited; our interest in it is apt to be soon exhausted. And we submit that it is possible to do this and not leave the other—the representation of specific truth—undone; in landscape as in figures, perfect art of the highest finds a means of uniting the two.

Romney is another generalising painter, an able and "frightful" executant, rather more mechanical and less a colourist than Reynolds, but possessed of a fine sense of beauty and grace, though more self-conscious and less original than Gainsborough. He is, however, represented sparingly, and not at his best. The "Miss Lucy Vernon" (29), engraved as "The Scampstress," though solidly painted, is perhaps really more empty than his two great rivals' works ever were. As usual, we have a study of the model who enslaved him—Emma Lyon, or Harte, who afterwards became the Lady Hamilton, whose influence Nelson owned at Naples (31)—a head bowed, the finger to the dimpled chin, the eyes looking up with a most bewitching smile. The same captivating model doubtless served for the "Wood Nymph" (37), a recumbent figure with a little child, engraved as "Rhodope," which recalls the Bolognese School. The great fall in public estimation of Lawrence's works, since the popularity his facile talents won for them, is to be referred mainly to their want of sincerity—the obvious aim at flattery which pandered to the artificial taste of fashionable sitters—of which we have a trace in the vignette head of the Countess of Cawdor (27). How much nobler in execution than this pretty riant face, with its sparkling eyes, is the portrait by James Ward of his mother (3), painted nineteen years before her death, though she was then eighty! The portrait is interesting not only as revealing the uncommon power in human portraiture of the well-known animal painter, but also on account of the subject, for this singularly handsome old lady (herself related to George Morland) was the mother, besides James, of George Raphael Ward, the patriarchal engraver, recently deceased (who, allowing for

difference of sex, was strikingly like this portrait), and the father of Mrs. E. M. Ward, herself the mother of artists, and whose husband, the R.A., by a rare coincidence, bore the same surname, though not, we believe, otherwise related. There are, by-the-way, two or three very pleasing small examples of Morland's rustic homely charm. In Bonnington's scene from "Peveril of the Peak" (34) and his small "Sands at Sunset" (32) we see something of the graceful, dexterous handling and colouring with which the Parisian painters were so smitten, and wherewith the young artist left his impress on the French school; but we fail to find these qualities in the larger and to us doubtful picture of "Venice" (40). There is so much merit in three pictures by Joseph Severn—who nursed the poet Keats with such patient tenderness in his last illness—that a regret may be felt that he should have neglected painting to perform the duties of Consul—the post he so long and worthily occupied at Rome. These are "Roman Peasants in the Campagna" (16); "Scenes from the Ancient Mariner" (4)—which, however, is too realistic for Coleridge's weird conception of the approach of the phantom-ship with the ghastly twain, Death and Life-in-Death—and a pretty little picture of "Ariel" (26) on the bat's back. With mention of Etty's characteristic "Wood Nymphs and Satyrs" (9) we pass to the remaining landscapes.

Richard Wilson, in carrying the theory of generalisation of his day into landscape, did so more legitimately than did his contemporaries the portraitists. For a representation of natural scenery can but be a compendium more or less suggestive, whereas a very complete degree of realisation is absolutely essential in portraiture. And to the generalisation theory, though liable to abuse, is to be attributed the great superiority in style of our early landscape-painters. But although Wilson adopted the theory, his landscapes are more variously descriptive than those of Gainsborough. He not only imbued his mind with the works of the classical masters in this department, but he transfused for himself the great truths of nature into his broad, and manly, and vigorous, and poetical works. The long depreciation of this master's productions, from which they are only just recovering, is one of the greatest blots on contemporary taste. Here are two deliciously limpid and aerial small pieces by him (22 and 28), and also Sir Reginald Beauchamp's large and famous "composition" (134), which in this case is synonymous with poem, of rocks and waterfall, river and plain, mountains and mountainous cloudland—elements of the finest Italian scenery. Old Crome's works have encountered a better fate of late; and we need not enlarge on the merits of the long-obscure Norwich giant—merits vastly more various as well as decidedly greater than those of Hobbema. The large example, "The Village Glade" (23), though fine, is darkened and damaged in the foliage; yet compare the painting of the tree-trunks with that of Hobbema in the next room! By Sir Augustus Calcott there is a coast-scene, imposing by its size and its strong, solid, straightforward realistic painting, representing the "Mouth of the Tyne" (38), with a noble barque putting to sea, all but topsails set, and numerous other craft, the town of Shields closing the view on the right. This is, however, but prose in art from end to end and top to bottom.

By Turner there is one of the simplest yet most enjoyable of the series of country seats and castles which he produced in his earlier time—the "View of Somerhill, near Tunbridge Wells" (11). In this idyll of homely English scenery there is an all-pervading sense of atmosphere and soft glowing light; for the eye there is everywhere rest—on the strip of cool quiet water in the foreground, on the broad sweep of sward beyond dotted with cattle and figures, on the clustered trees lying in the drowsy sunlight on their soft shadows up the slope, on the still summer sky that suffuses all. The colouring is transparent, harmonious, but the tones are low and brownish, excluding green, the painter never having given, as Mr. Leslie pointed out, the "verdure" of England. What a contrast, however, the perfect placidity and truth, if sober and partial, here to the white-hot frenzy of distraught artistic and poetic ambition or utter recklessness of spurious pictorial manufacture, and the resultant falsity to everything which nature presents to healthy eyesight or suggests to healthy imaginative vision, is this *splendide mendax*—no, scarcely "splendid"—this tawdry theatrical gaud, this product of the artist's suicidal decadence called "The Grand Canal, Venice: Blessing the Adriatic" (35). We say it is so-called; were it not, however, for the peculiar outline of the Rialto bridge in the distance and the gondola prows it would be hard to guess where on this earth or in what planet are to be found this hard blue sky studded with bosses of white, these white, formless edifices of no known building material rising, ghost-like, from a plain of polished marble flecked with all imaginable colours, and these crowds of deformed dolls in saffron, and scarlet, and purple—save one brown-frocked puppet, with hands raised, presumably in benediction. But, stay; is there not a further identification of the scene? To the right is a figure holding a pair of scales—can this be Shylock? Yet, if so, why is he here? Seriously, however, it is time to say, both as a verity and a warning, that such perversion of acknowledged genius is not so much the result of over-wrought imagination, or of the ambition to paint with the artist's poor pigments the unpaintable splendour of light, as it is the inevitable outcome of the unscrupulousness which marked Turner's whole character, and grew rapidly when, cynically assured of his powers and position, he cast about for the readiest means of winning the money and fame that, once won, he so loved to hoard, or the pictures that represented both. His reckless use of pigments he well knew to be fugitive, for the sake of their immediate brilliancy, merely corresponds with the rest of his practice. That unscrupulousness dates as early as the "Liber" days, when, for the purpose of easily obtaining pictorial effects, he would alter every local fact; and it grew till no truth of line or form, modelling or gradation, tone or colour was left—as we see here.

The Burlington Fine Arts Club proposes shortly to form an exhibition of works by early Flemish Painters.

A movement is on foot at Manchester, promoted by the Mayor, for the purpose of providing the town with a new fine-art gallery, more suitable for exhibition purposes than the rooms of the Royal Institution.

Anselm Feuerbach, the German historical painter, died recently at Venice. Many of his subjects were derived from the Italian poets and Goethe. His masterpiece was entitled "The Symposium of Plato."

To-day (Saturday) Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods will dispose of the second portion of the collection of pictures belonging to Mr. P. L. Everard, which includes a large number of works by leading artists of the French, Spanish, and other schools.

At the annual meeting of the "British Academy of Fine Arts" at Rome, Mr. Arthur Strutt, the well-known landscape-painter, writer, and archaeologist, was elected life trustee in the room of the late Mr. Joseph Severn. The last year's accounts show a balance in hand of £521f., including a donation of £100f. from Mr. William Lloyd.

Mr. Beaviss's admirable picture of the "Halt of Prince

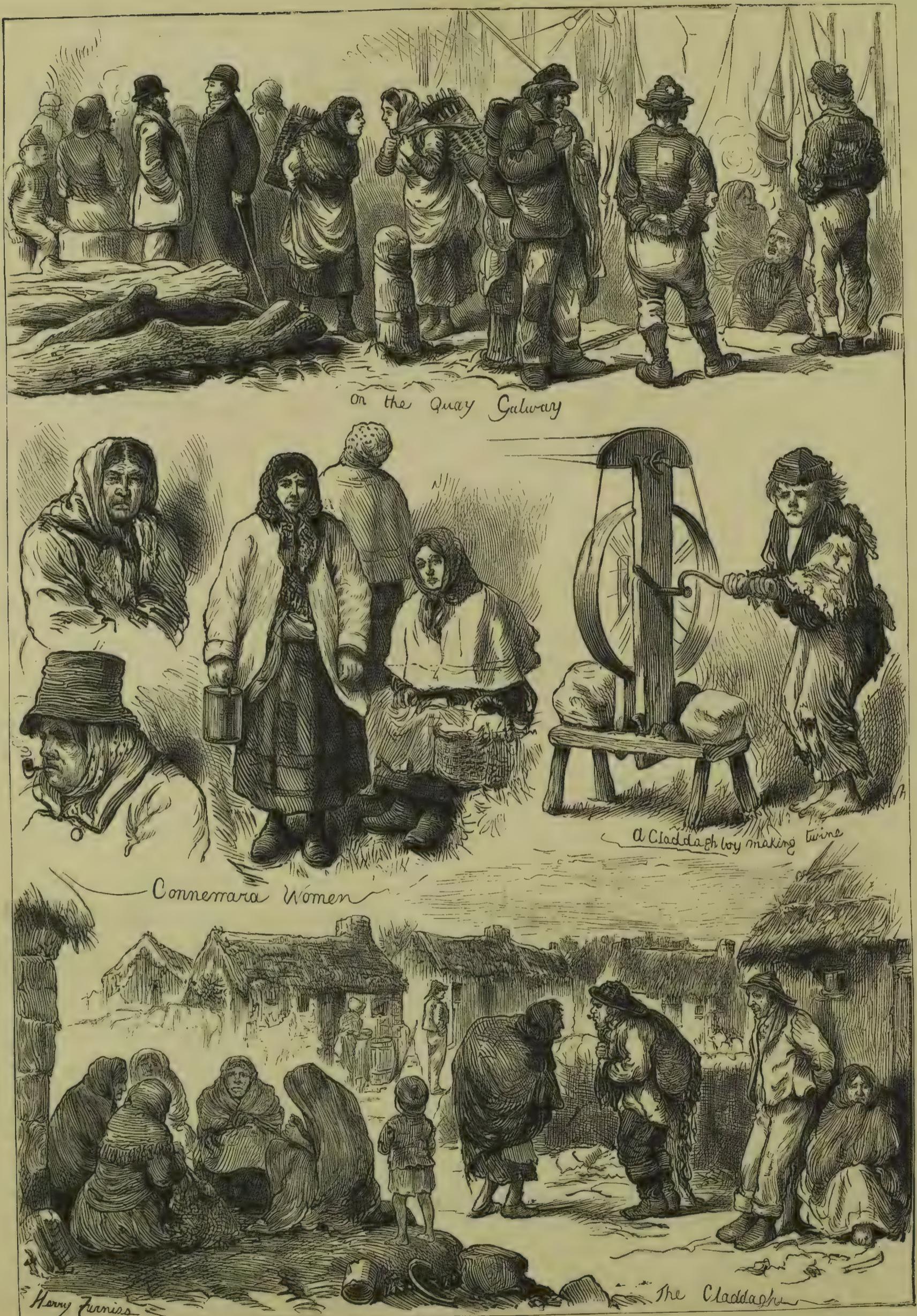
Charles Edward" after the final defeat at Culloden, which was in the Academy Exhibition of 1878, has been reproduced in oil-colour facsimile, with all its numerous well-conceived figures, bleak March landscape, and sad sky, in a manner superior to anything in the nature of oleography that we have hitherto seen produced in this country. The facsimile, which is published by the National Fine-Art Association, of Castle-street, Holborn, deserves, indeed, a success that may enable the association to place many other pictures of mark within the reach of those unable to purchase the original works.

The celebrated Greek statue commonly called "the Venus of Milo," in the Galleries of the Louvre at Paris, was spoken of in a recent article, with reference to one of our Illustrations. We are indebted to a correspondent for some historical information concerning its discovery and the means by which it came into the possession of the French Government. It was in 1820 that it was found by a Greek peasant of the isle of Milo, the ancient Melos. It was offered to the French Consul at that place; and he referred the question to Captain Duval D'Ailly, commander of the French ship Emulation. That officer was about to remove it in his vessel, but the Turkish Government laid claim to it, and it was then conveyed in a Turkish brig to Constantinople, where it was sold by auction, and was purchased on account of Louis XVIII. by the Marquis de Rivière, French Ambassador at the Porte. This noble work of antique sculpture was therefore not one of those brought to Paris from Italy in consequence of the military conquests of Napoleon I. "The French Mars" has not that imputed act of spoliation to answer for with other instances of the kind, which were redressed in 1815 by order of the Congress of Vienna.

The widely-extended appreciation of the decorative arts of the Japanese, the wonder excited by their productions in the last great International Exhibitions of London and Paris, and the influence which those productions have exerted upon many branches of decoration in this country, furnish an ample justification for the compilation of such a series of typical examples as that now in course of publication (by Messrs. Batsford, of High Holborn) under the title *A Grammar of Japanese Ornament and Design*. Three parts are already issued, and a fourth, completing the work, will appear shortly. The examples have been carefully selected and drawn by Mr. Thomas W. Cutler, F.R.S.B.A., and illustrate the natural and conventionalised ornament of the Japanese as found on their lacquer china, faience, bronzes, embroidery, paintings, woodcuts, textiles, &c. The selection is varied and extensive, though of course very far from exhaustive, and to art-workmen of all kinds it should be useful by way of suggestion—not for slavish imitation, as we too commonly see. The work will do good service if it only directs the attention of our designers, decorators, and ornamentists to Japanese originals; for it must not be supposed that it will, or that it was intended to, render such reference unnecessary. There is much for our art-workmen to learn, not only from the principles of Japanese design, but also from the evidences of a manual training—in knowledge of form and of the right method of applying colour in marvellous delicacy, precision, and directness of line, and in exquisite finish generally—which few European hands can rival.

SKETCHES IN IRELAND.

Our Irish Sketches presented this week are those of characteristic and curious scenes in the old city of Galway. No place in the West of Ireland bears an aspect more distinctly associated with the long period of separation from the ordinary civil and social life of this kingdom, which was the lot of Connacht in former ages, and to which its backward condition in present times may in some degree be ascribed. It is true that the city was inhabited by English or Anglo-Norman colonists so early as the thirteenth century; and the family names of its principal residents, such as Blake, Lynch, Bodkin, Browne, Ffrench, D'Arcy, Joyce, Martin, and Morris, prove that they were not of purely Irish race. But they seem to have soon formed an almost independent local community, the chief members of which, engaging boldly in foreign maritime trade, more especially with Spain, acquired considerable wealth; and this city enjoyed for some generations a larger freedom of self-government than belonged to other thriving commercial towns of the realm. Galway, in fact, was by its remote situation, and by the disturbed state of the adjacent country, almost beyond the reach of the English regal power, except at certain intervals after a fresh conquest. The original Celtic tribes of the neighbouring county had gathered themselves up in Connemara, a wild district lying west of Lough Corrib, towards the Atlantic shore, almost cut off from the mainland, but they were allowed to frequent the seaport of Galway and to make a settlement there. This is the quarter still distinguished as "the Claddagh," a sort of native Irish Ghetto, retaining its peculiarities to this day. From this, probably, Galway was called "The City of the Tribes." Though sadly decayed and defaced, the better parts of the city, though closely crowded together by the lines of the ancient walls and fortifications, display many fine old urban mansions, built in the Spanish style, with spacious inner courts, arched portals, broad stairs, and sculptured decorations, the homes of merchant nobles like those of southern Europe. But the Claddagh is a cluster of rude cabins on the beach, where several thousand poor people, mostly boatmen or fishermen, or coasting sailors, dwell quite apart from the townsfolk, cherishing their own habits and customs, and speaking their own language. It is said that they have, like the gypsies till of late years, a code of laws and form of government administered by an elective monarch who is called in Galway "the King of Claddagh," and who is yearly chosen by "the Claddagh Boys" on the eve of St. John. A procession of men and women, bearing long fases of dock-stems, escort him through the quarter, and, when proclamation has been duly made, bonfires are lighted in honour of his reign for the ensuing twelvemonth. His ensign is a white flag, and he is empowered to decide all quarrels and punish all minor offences among the Claddagh population, without troubling the police and the legal magistrate at all. These very original "Men of Galway," indeed, seem to regard the shopkeeping, professional, official, broadcloth-wearing, English-speaking classes of the town as an inferior race of upstart new-comers, whom they call "transplanters." Our Artist's sketches on the quay at Galway, in the Claddagh, and those of a group of Connemara women, and of a boy, with a cumbrous sort of spinning-wheel, producing twine for the making of their fishing-nets, give a lively notion of the appearance of this primitive folk. It is much to be desired that some effectual measures could be taken to revive the prosperity of Galway as a mercantile seaport. The bay, which is nearly thirty miles long and twenty miles wide, securely protected by the Arran Isles at its entrance, is one of the finest natural harbours in the world, and the best adapted for an American packet station. Our middle-aged or elderly readers will perhaps bear in remembrance that an experiment in this direction was tried some twenty-five or thirty years ago; but we are not aware of any reason why it should not be renewed at some favourable opportunity with happier success. The population of Galway city is now under 16,000, having diminished one third in the last thirty years.

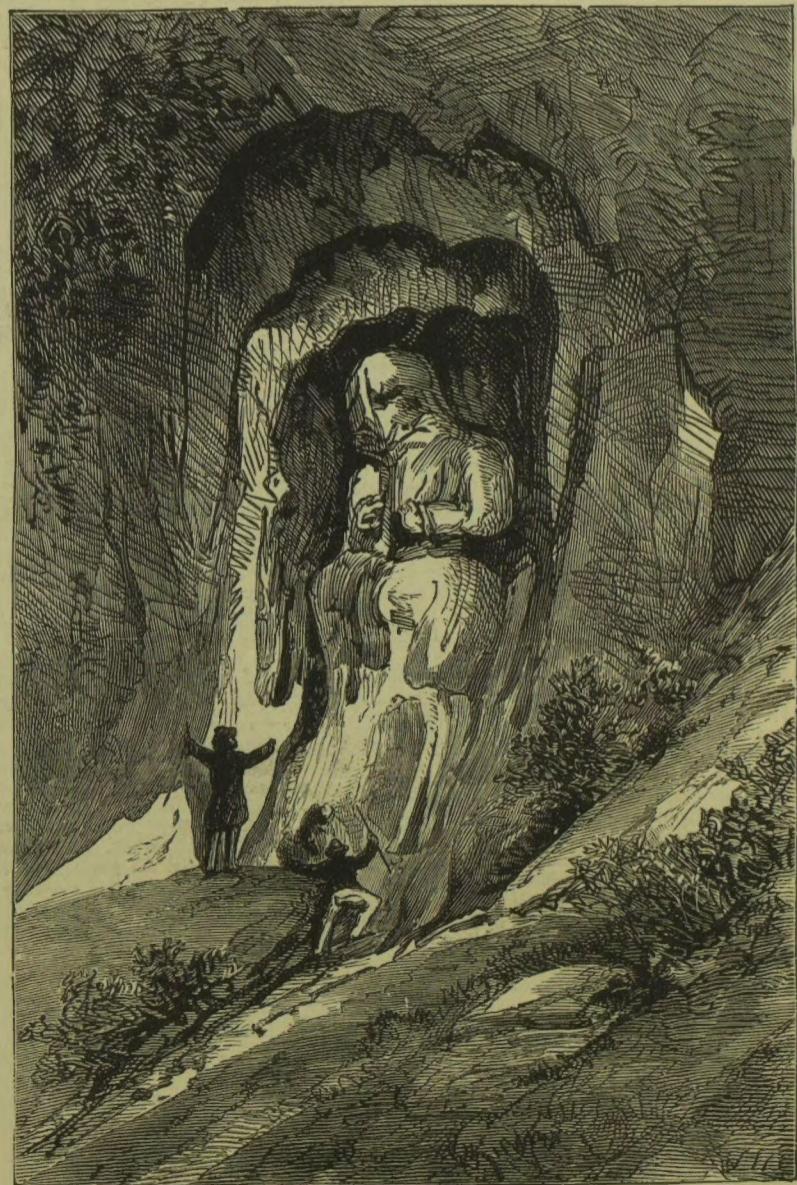




HER GRACE THE DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH.—SEE PAGE 118.



SCULPTURED FIGURE AT NYMPHI, NEAR SMYRNA.



THE NIOBE AT MOUNT SIPYLUS, NEAR MAGNESIA.—SEE PAGE 118.

THE DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH.

The wife of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland is discharging a political, as well as social, humane, and Christian duty, in taking the lead, as she has done, with her proposal of a public subscription to relieve the existing Irish distress. Her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough—whose Portrait we have now the pleasure of presenting to our readers, has long since earned, both in Ireland and in England, the reputation of a most benevolent and kind-hearted lady. She is, moreover, an Irishwoman, having been born Lady Frances Anne Emily Vane, eldest daughter of the third Marquis of Londonderry by his second wife, who was a daughter of Sir Harry Vane Tempest, Bart., and of Anne Catherine, Countess of Antrim in her own right. The name of Vane, instead of Stewart, was taken by the third Marquis of Londonderry upon the occasion of that marriage, in 1819, and he was subsequently created Earl Vane and Viscount Seaham. The present Marquis of Londonderry, who bears, by Royal license, dated 1851, the full name of Vane Tempest, is brother to her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough. Their uncle was Robert Stewart, second Marquis of Londonderry, better known as Lord Castlereagh, the eminent statesman by whose agency the Union between Great Britain and Ireland was effected, and who conducted the diplomatic business of the Congress of Vienna, as Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. Their father, Charles William, third Marquis, and a Knight of the Garter, was a distinguished soldier and diplomatist, rendering important services both in the Peninsular War, under the Duke of Wellington, and as Ambassador at Vienna. Lady Frances Anne Emily Vane was married, on July 12, 1843, to the Marquis of Blandford (John Winston Spencer Churchill), who in 1857 succeeded his father as Duke of Marlborough, being the seventh Duke. They have two sons now living, the present Marquis of Blandford and Lord Randolph Henry Spencer-Churchill, M.P. for Woodstock, besides three who died in infancy; and they have six daughters, one married to Sir Ivor Guest, Bart., one to Captain W. H. Fellowes, one to Mr. E. Marjoribanks, and one to the Marquis of Bowmont, heir to the dukedom of Roxburgh. His Grace the Duke of Marlborough, before his accession to that rank, was an active and useful member of the House of Commons, as Marquis of Blandford, taking a considerable part in measures of social and ecclesiastical reform. He held office in 1866 and 1867 as Lord Steward of the Royal Household, and in 1868 as President of the Council. In December, 1876, he was appointed to succeed the Duke of Abercorn as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, where his administration has fairly continued the equitable and conciliatory policy of which an example had been set by his esteemed predecessor at Dublin Castle. In the person of her Grace, as we have seen, the Duke of Marlborough has an excellent partner of his important social duties among the Irish people.

The Portrait of the Duchess of Marlborough is from a photograph by Mr. Chancellor, of Sackville-street, Dublin.

ANTIQUE SCULPTURES IN ASIA MINOR.

Our Illustrations of two very curious examples of ancient sculpture in Asia Minor, the one at Nymphi, about twenty miles from Smyrna, the other on Mount Sipylus, up the Hermus Valley, near the site of Magnesia, should have some interest for readers conversant with Greek classic literature. The first is a figure carved in bas-relief on the rock, which seems to represent an armed warrior, in the act of walking, a spear in his left hand, a bow slung over his right shoulder. It has been conjectured to be possibly one of those described by Herodotus, in Book II., "Euterpe," as having been intended to commemorate the Egyptian conquest of Sesostris, or Rameses II. But this seems now to be considered rather doubtful. The statement of the old Greek historian is:—"There are in Ionia two images of that King, carved on rocks; one, on the road from Ephesus to Phocaea; the other, on the way between Sardis and Smyrna: in both places a man is carved, four and a half cubits high, holding a spear in his right hand, and in his left a bow; and the rest of his equipment conformable, for it is partly Egyptian and partly Ethiopian; and from one shoulder to the other, across his breast, extend sacred Egyptian characters, engraved, which have the following meaning:—'I won this country by my own shoulders.'"
The illustration we give is drawn after a photograph by Rubelin, of Smyrna, but the drawing is too precisely outlined, as the sculpture on the rock is much worn away by time. There are some marks above the head of the figure, in the right-hand corner, which may have been a written inscription, and which have been supposed to be Egyptian hieroglyphics. Our well-known Special Artist, Mr. William Simpson, in his exhibition of drawings and sketches connected with Levantine archaeology, at Messrs. Colnaghi's rooms, in 1878, showed a drawing of this piece of sculpture. He expressed an opinion, in the brief commentary of his catalogue printed for that exhibition, that if this were the sculpture noticed by Herodotus, that historian would be mistaken in ascribing it to an Egyptian source; for it is certainly not Egyptian art, and there are no Egyptian hieroglyphics now visible; at least the marks above-mentioned cannot be identified as characters of that description. Mr. Simpson further remarks that a genuine monument of Sesostris exists at Nahr-el-Kelb, on the Lycus, near Beyrouth in Syria, which differs altogether from this reputed monument of Sesostris near Smyrna. A new theory concerning the latter relic of antiquity has very recently been started. The empire of the Hittites, with a powerful confederacy of the tribes of Mesopotamia, Western Armenia, and Asia Minor, contended against that of the Egyptians from the time of Rameses II. or Sesostris, fourteen centuries before Christ. The discovery of the site of Carchemish, the Hittite capital, on the banks of the Upper Euphrates, has led to some historical researches, an account of which may be read in the *Times* of last Friday; and it is there stated that the two sculptured figures in Asia Minor, which were mentioned by Herodotus, do not represent the Egyptian Sesostris, but "turn out to be memorials of his enemies the Hittites." The inscription that accompanies one of these figures is now said to be written in Hittite hieroglyphic characters.

With regard to the subject of our other illustration, the figure cut in the rock on Mount Sipylus, near Magnesia, it was sketched by Mr. Simpson during his Greek archaeological campaign three years ago, when he diligently examined and delineated the localities supposed to belong to the story of the Iliad, including Dr. Schliemann's conjectural site of Priam's palace and the citadel of Troy. Mr. Simpson visited several parts of Asia Minor, and he bore in mind, when in this neighbourhood, that passage of the twenty-fourth book of the Iliad, in which Achilles, by way of consoling Priam for the loss of his son, reminds him of the greater affliction of Niobe, in the death of all her sons and daughters. "And now indeed, far amidst the rocks of the desert mountains of Sipylus, she sits forlorn, being made a stone, and broods over the sorrows that were sent her by the gods." There are two references also by Sophocles, in the "Antigone" and "Electra," to that position of Niobe; but whether the figure so called which is still

remaining on Mount Sipylus, and of which Mr. Simpson made his drawing (also comprised in his exhibition of 1878), is the same figure, or whether it ever represented Niobe, is far from certain. Mr. Simpson has even some doubt whether it may not be a male figure, as there is some indication of a beard, or something beneath the chin. The perpendicular cliff has been hollowed out in a niche, and here is carved the figure, seated in what seems to have been meant for a chair; the knees seem to be covered with a robe; the arms are pressed against the bosom, and even the fingers are visible; but the head and face are destroyed by time. There are traces of a chain, or similar ornament, over the shoulder and breast.

ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF MUSCLE.

Professor E. A. Schäfer began his second lecture, on Tuesday week, the 20th inst., by remarking, in regard to the anatomy of muscle, that there appears to be no special relation between its structure and function, and that there is no known law of its contractility, a faculty which seems to depend upon its life. Advertising, then, to the physical properties of muscle, he commented upon and illustrated experimentally its elasticity, making use of the muscles of frogs, which live and retain contractility some time after the death of the animal. He demonstrated, by casting magnified shadows on a white screen, that the rates of elongation of a muscle when a weight is attached to it, and of its shortening when the weight is removed, differ from the behaviour of a wire when so treated; the elasticity of the muscle varied with different weights. He showed also that the vitality of the muscle was destroyed when put into warm water, a frog being a cold-blooded animal; that it then lost its contractility; and that instead of resisting the electric current it became a good conductor. From being somewhat fluid and translucent, it became stiff and opaque through coagulation, which is the cause of the rigidity of death. Its chemical character is also changed. Muscle, which is neutral or slightly alkaline when living, after death becomes decidedly acid. The advantage of the elasticity of muscle in giving springiness and easy motion, and in preserving it from rupture by strain or sudden exertion, was pointed out; and its excitability by stimuli, through the will or by mechanical agency was illustrated. Its excitability by the electric current was exhibited, especially by means of Du Bois Reymond's induction coil, with a graduated scale.

MODERN ARCHITECTURE.

Mr. H. H. Statham began his second and concluding lecture, given on Thursday week, the 22nd, with remarks on the attic story as a peculiar feature of Renaissance architecture, used both by Roman and modern architects. He then illustrated the château style of France, prevalent in the sixteenth century, pointing out its transitional character, Classic mingled with Gothic. Magnified photographs were shown on the screen of the following examples:—The Tuilleries, begun by Philibert de l'Orme; the Louvre Court, partly by Serlio, of Bologna; the Luxembourg, by De Brosse; and Versailles, by J. H. Mansard, who gave much character to Louis Quatorze architecture. He also designed the Chapel of the Invalides, with its noble dome. Photographs were also shown of the works of Perrault, with examples of terrace architecture. Bernini is thought to have had a vulgarising influence in France. Illustrations were then given of modern Spanish and German architecture (from Seville and Heidelberg), which indicate French influence, also evident in the Jesuit churches northward. Sketches of the Transitional style in England were next considered; especially shown in the works of Inigo Jones (Whitehall, and St. Paul's, Covent-garden). Comments were then made on Wren's churches, especially constructed for Protestant worship, such as St. Stephen's, Walbrook. Dutch influence is apparent at Hampton Court. The heavy style of Sir John Vanbrugh (the Queen Anne style), the Renaissance deprived of nearly all its characteristics, is exemplified at Blenheim. Brief notices were given of some of the works of Hawksmoor (St. George's, Bloomsbury), Kent (the Horse Guards), James Gibbs (St. Martin's-in-the-Fields), Sir William Chambers (Somerset House), Dance (Newgate), Soane (the Bank), and John and Robert Adam. The work of Stuart and Revett on Athenian Architecture led to the revival of the pure Greek style, of which St. Pancras, by Inwood, was a result. Comments were made on the works of Wyatt (the Pantheon), Wilkins (National Gallery), Smirke (the British Museum), and Nash (Regent-street). Sir Charles Barry was said to be the only recent British architect who, after studying in Greece and Italy, has exhibited something of the suitability and breadth of treatment of the early Florentine palaces in the Houses of Parliament, and Halifax Townhall. In the latter part of the lecture Mr. Statham commented on the Gothic revival, under the influence of Pugin and others, and the absurdities of the ecclesiastical movement. He could not wholly condemn the much-censured restorations of our cathedrals, as they had been too long neglected; but judicious care was imperatively required. The recent revival of the Queen Anne style was justly censured. London Bridge was commended as an example of architectural engineering, and as superior to the more ornate Blackfriars. In regard to the future, Mr. Statham advocated the study of the logic of architecture and alluded to the good effects of culture and travel.

SEA AND LAND IN RELATION TO GEOLOGICAL TIME.

Dr. W. B. Carpenter, C.B., F.R.S., who gave the discourse at the evening meeting on Friday, the 23rd inst., began by commenting on the valuable results obtained by the Challenger expedition in respect to the past history of our globe, as well as to the present physical condition of the great ocean basins, investigated by his colleague, Sir Wyville Thomson, and himself. Much was learnt concerning depth and temperature, and it was shown that there is probably no limit to the depth at which animal life may exist, since it has been found three miles below the surface, including cretaceous types, of which existing ones are, probably, lineal descendants. Moreover, Dr. Carpenter, through these results, was led to doubt the correctness of the till lately generally accepted dogma, that at one time or other all our existing land had been under water, and that every part of the sea bottom had once been elevated above the surface, even as lofty mountains. In his discourse he adduced various reasons, based upon facts and calculations, to support the belief in the permanence throughout all geological time of what may be called the framework of our existing continents and the real oceanic basins. The repeated changes which have occurred in them he attributed principally to upheavals, and to subsidence in portions of the originally elevated areas, which constituted the bases of our present continents, whilst the far larger depressed areas, which originally formed the floors of the basins now occupied by deep sea, have never (save in small spots affected by local volcanic agency) been raised into dry land. He showed by reference to maps that the existing distribution of land and sea is not capricious, as asserted by Lyell, but exhibits a definite arrangement; and he gave many illustrations of

relative depths and heights, showing what great changes in the surface might occur from elevations or depressions of three or four hundred feet even in the British Isles. In concluding, he quoted statements by Professors Dana and Geikie confirming his views, which led him to present them, with increased confidence, as a doctrine likely soon to take rank as one of the fundamental verities of geological science.

GEOLOGICAL HISTORY OF COAL.

Professor T. Rupert Jones, F.R.S., in his second lecture, given on Saturday week, the 24th inst., considered the different varieties of coal and allied fuels, under the heads of gas coal, household coal, steam coals, anthracite, and coke, both natural and artificial. The earthy and stony strata associated with the carbonaceous beds known as "the coal-measures" were then described, including clays, shales, and sandstones, in their many varieties, with ironstones and occasional limestone. The Professor specially noticed among the argillaceous or clayey beds the "underclays" or mud soils on which the plants of each successive silurian forest took root and flourished; and also the laminated clays or shales, sometimes with drifted plant remains, sometimes thoroughly impregnated with carbonaceous matter, and passing into cannel coal when it predominates over muddy sediment in their composition. The nodules and bands of ironstone frequent in the clays were described as segregations of carbonate of iron, in the old black fetid muds brought about by the union of the carbonic acid of decomposition with the iron oxide of the mud. They are present in the lacustrine clays of all ages, and those of Wealden beds served as the chief iron ore down to about two hundred years ago. The arenaceous, or sandy strata, often very thick, false-bedded, and destitute of fossils, are micaceous in many places. The quartz, felspar, and mica of an old western granitic region supplied the materials which swallowed the carboniferous sea, and formed wide, flat maritime marshes, where the coal-growths flourished age after age. The ground, having gradually sunk with its thousands of feet of accumulated strata, was in time disturbed by volcanic changes, bringing in new conditions and another great geological formation. The "carboniferous" coals and plant-beds, the Professor said, were not the first nor the last stratified vegetable material. Every formation, with the deposits of contemporary rivers, lakes, and seas, and the volcanic outpourings of the time, necessarily comprised and probably retained leaf-beds, peats, and forest-beds, more or less chemically altered, though not so extensive as those of the coal-measures. Some of the best known were described. In conclusion, the Professor briefly noticed the present position of what remains of the old coal-areas and what are known as "coal-fields." The illustrations comprised numerous diagrams and specimens.

William Huggins, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S., will on Friday next, Feb. 6, give a discourse on the Photographic Spectra of Stars. On Saturday next Professor Pauer will give the first of three lectures on Handel, Sebastian Bach, and Joseph Haydn, with musical illustrations.

ASTRONOMICAL OCCURRENCES IN FEBRUARY.

(From the "Illustrated London Almanack.")

The Moon is near Venus during the morning hours of the 7th; is near Mercury on the 10th, Jupiter during the evening hours of the 12th. She is near Saturn during the evening hours of the 14th. She is to the right of Mars during the evening and night hours of the 17th, and to the left on the evening hours of the 18th. She is nearest the Earth on the evening of the 6th, and most distant from it on the evening of the 18th. Her phases or times of change are:—

Last Quarter	on the 3rd at 38 minutes after 3h. in the afternoon.
New Moon	" 10th , 17 " 11 " morning.
First Quarter	" 18th , 46 " 3 " morning.
Full Moon	" 26th , 22 " 1 " morning.

Mercury rises on the 6th at about the same time as the Sun, and from this day till March 20 he rises in daylight. He sets at about the time of sunset on the 17th; at 5h. 43m. p.m., or 22 minutes after the Sun, on the 20th; and at 6h. 18m. p.m., or 48 minutes after sunset, on the 23rd. He is near the Moon on the 10th, in superior conjunction with the Sun on the 14th, in quadrature with the Sun on the 23rd, and near Jupiter on the 29th.

Venus is a morning star, rising on the 1st at 5h. 21m. a.m., or 2h. 21m. before sunrise; on the 10th at 5h. 32m. a.m., or 1h. 55m. before the Sun; on the 20th at 5h. 37m. a.m., or 1h. 30m. before sunrise; and on the last day at 5h. 35m. a.m., or 1h. 15m. before sunrise. She is due south on the 1st at 9h. 25m. a.m., on the 15th at 9h. 42m. a.m., and on the last day at 9h. 45m. a.m. She is near the Moon on the 7th, and in her descending node on the 29th.

Mars sets on the 1st at 2h. 41m. a.m., on the 11th at 2h. 26m. a.m., on the 21st at 2h. 12m. a.m., and on the last day at 2h. 2m. a.m. He is due south on the 1st at 6h. 41m. p.m., on the 15th at 6h. 12m. p.m., and on the last day at 5h. 45m. p.m. He is near the Moon on the 18th, and in quadrature with the Sun on the 23rd.

Jupiter is an evening star, setting at 7h. 20m. p.m., or 2h. 26m. after sunset, on the 10th; at 7h. 3m. p.m., or 1h. 42m. after sunset, on the 20th; and at 6h. 41m. p.m., or 1h. 4m. after sunset, on the last day. He is due south on the 1st at 2h. 23m. p.m., on the 15th at 1h. 40m. p.m., and on the last day at 0h. 57m. p.m. He is near the Moon on the 12th.

Saturn sets on the 1st at 10h. 16m. p.m., on the 10th at 9h. 46m. p.m., on the 20th at 9h. 11m. p.m., and on the 29th at 8h. 42m. p.m. He is due south on the 1st at 4h. 0m. p.m., on the 15th at 3h. 10m. p.m., and on the last day at 2h. 20m. p.m. He is near the Moon on the 14th.

Mr. Arthur Charles, Q.C., and Mr. William Willis, Q.C., have been elected benchers of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple, in the places of the late Right Hon. J. A. Rocbuck, Q.C., and the late Mr. Kingdon, Q.C.

The late Miss Martha Charters Somerville, who died recently at Florence, has bequeathed £2500 to the National Life-Boat Institution for the purpose of forming and maintaining on some part of the coasts of the United Kingdom a life-boat station in memory of her mother, Mrs. Mary Somerville, the well-known scientific authoress.

Lord Derby presided on Monday at the distribution of prizes and scholarships offered by the Liverpool Council of Education to the pupils in the public elementary schools of that town. He advised any one who had a thousand pounds to spare, and the will to spend it, to found a scholarship, and he would have the assurance that his money would not be wasted. Compulsion, as regarded school attendance, he described as a rough and clumsy expedient, apt to create hardship and an undesirable feeling of suspicion and distrust. The prospect of rewards and prizes, he thought, would induce parents to send their children to school and to keep them there. School Boards must in time become universal, and he urged the friends of education in the country and in small towns to regard what was being done in the great cities.

The Duke of Marlborough, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, has written to the Lord Mayor of Dublin declining to attend the banquet on Feb. 3, owing to the character of the resolutions passed at a recent meeting in the City Hall, at which the Lord Mayor (Mr. E. D. Gray, M.P.) presided in his official capacity. The Viceroy states that it would not be in his power to ignore the resolutions or to observe upon them whilst accepting the hospitality of the Lord Mayor. The Lord Mayor, in consequence, with the consent of the Town Council, has abandoned the dinner, and given £500 to the distressed people of Dublin.—The Lord Mayor and the principal members of the Corporation attended the Duke of Marlborough's Levée at the Castle on Tuesday, in accordance with a resolution come to on the previous night. The presence of the Lord Mayor at the Levée will, it is hoped, go far to remove the difficulty which has arisen between himself and the Lord Lieutenant.

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